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JOHN BULL

Vol. VIII. No. 208

SATURDAY, MAY 28, 1910.

ONE PENNY.

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper.]

No. 227029



*The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull*

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

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Racing Notes, etc.

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DEAR SIRs,—I feel it my absolute duty to send you this testimonial of your worthy Wincarnis. We had my grandmother down with Chronic Bronchitis and a Weak Heart just a week ago, and in fact all relations were summoned together with the expectation of seeing her pass away; even the doctor gave up all hopes of her recovery, and said that she might choke at any moment. I happened to call to see her myself, and she requested one favour, and that was that I should buy her a bottle of your Wincarnis. This I instantly sent for, and within half an hour after the first dose she commenced to part with phlegm, this giving her much ease, and from that moment she has been constantly on the mend, and on the fifth day she was well enough to sit up near the fire.

(Signed) ARTHUR STOTT.

**This is one of the most treacherous months in the year,
and if you are weak and ailing we urge you to send 3d.
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Name this paper and you will receive a sample bottle large enough to test its sterling merit—but send **AT ONCE** if you want

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The following claims have been received for the issues of April 9th and 16th:—

G. WALLACE, c.o. Mrs. Lawrie, 275, Leith Walk, Leith. (No. 153,801.—April 9th.)

R. J. SPENCE-SMITH, 155, Dames Road, Forest Gate, E. (No. 240,534.—April 9th.)

G. GLOVER, 36, Revelon Road, Brockley. (No. 188,771.—April 16th.)

MRS. ANNIE BILES, Grosvenor Dairy, Cromwell Road, Hounslow, Middlesex. (No. 130,334.—April 16th.)

J. S. GRAY, 37, Darell Road, Bedford, Notts. (No 324,892.—April 16th.)

MRS. R. NEWMAN, Highclere, Welbeck Avenue, Southampton.
(No 185,489.—April 16th.)

S. GODBEHERE, 33, Wellington Street, West, Higher Broughton, Manchester. (No. 111,297.—April 16th.)

S. J. RELF, 24, Ifield Road, Fulham Road, S.W. (262,450.—
April 16th.)

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of April 30: —

2517	60443	158243	202613	308183
8636	61655	159416	218264	320864
9002	63178	161218	233022	333518
22474	77383	165573	242009	342052
24057	95217	176054	246967	353399
27098	108160	178465	251734	358928
34721	109479	178543	259347	359843
48079	116537	179402	260339	363165
49687	131704	182142	263661	364157
57741	137646	183872	272090	374512

INITIAL NOUGHTS SHOULD BE DISREGARDED, BUT FINAL ONES ARE, OF COURSE, RECKONED.

THE FIFTY NUMBERS IN RESPECT OF THIS WEEK WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN OUR ISSUE DATED JUNE 25TH (PUBLISHED JUNE 23RD).

JOHN BULL.

*Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant :
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.*

Vol. VIII. No. 208.

Saturday, May 28th, 1910.

One Penny.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Letters must be addressed to the Editor, or the Publisher, at
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All editorial enquiries MUST BE MADE BY LETTER.

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THE JOHN BULL LEAGUE.

A Public Meeting

(under the Auspices of the League)
WILL BE HELD IN

ST. GEORGE'S HALL, LIVERPOOL.

To-morrow, FRIDAY, MAY 27th.

Chair to be taken at 8.30 p.m. by the President,

HORATIO BOTTOMLEY, Esq., M.P.

DOORS OPEN 7.30.

ADMISSION FREE.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of
the day.]

The King is dead—Long live the King! This must
now be our motto and our thought. We have gone
through three weeks of poignant grief and severe shock,
and now we must face the plain fact that King Edward
is no more—that George the Fifth is King; and that,
in conformity with the inexorable law of life, we must
settle down to the new order of things, whilst the
world wags its weary way along the paths of human
destiny and evolution. Long live the King.

We have reason to believe that the Government will
adopt our view of the proprieties of the situation, and
that no attempt will be made to force the constitutional
crisis to a head at present. There is some difference
of opinion in the Cabinet upon the point, but it is not
very pronounced, and we entertain no doubt that the
doctrine of decency will, in the end, prevail.

Meanwhile His Majesty is applying himself with
wonderful earnestness to the duties of his exalted
position, and already people who come officially in

contact with him are appreciating our prediction that
he will make a strong monarch. We understand that
great pressure is being exercised by the Goody-Goodies
to induce him to disband King Edward's racing stud
and to eschew the Turf. We venture, however, to
express the hope that His Majesty will realise, as his
father did, that the shortest cut to his subjects' hearts
is through their sports and pastimes, and their social
habits. A "good" King is never a success—any more
than is a "good" public man. Neither represents the
People.

Shortly after the death of King Edward, the Post-
master-General issued a circular to all sub-postmasters
and supervisors of district and branch post-offices re-
questing that the window-blinds should be kept lowered
and the business of the offices conducted by artificial
light. Our readers will not charge us with lack of
loyalty and want of respect for his late Majesty when
we say that Mr. Herbert Samuel's order came perilously
close to the absurd. Essentially an open-air man
himself, King Edward would have been the last to
require anything detrimental to health from the hum-
blest of his civil servants, and he would have been the
first to rebuke his Postmaster for mistaken zeal. Mr.
Samuel's order affords a striking contrast with King
George's request that the theatres should remain open
to prevent needless hardship and unemployment. It
already appears that in some respects at least the new
King is more sensible than his Ministers.

We are sure Mr. Lloyd George would not like to think
that any of his utterances have undermined the loyalty of
the Principality, but we direct his attention to a recent
reference, in the *Bangor Observer*, to His late Majesty.
We read with indignation that the "death of King
Edward VII. means just as much as if the Sultan of
Zanzibar had departed this life," and that it "will
make no difference to the great majority of the people
of this country." Further, we are assured that "to
affect sorrow for others is a sham and sometimes
snobbishness." We should like to pay the Editor of
the *Bangor Observer* a visit—with our whip!

We do not remember having yet seen an official
explanation as to the appointment of Colonel A. M.
Murray in connection with the Labour Exchanges. It
may, of course, be a mere coincidence that he is a
brother of Sir George Murray, the Permanent Secretary
to the Treasury, but inasmuch as he enjoys a pension
of £420 a year, and unless he possesses some unique
qualifications for the position, it would almost appear
that somebody else might have had the job.

What is this we read about the collapse of a derrick
at the Thames Ironworks recently, resulting in the
death of a man engaged in fitting plates on the new
Dreadnought, and injury to two others? Nothing to do
with that German crane we hope!

The ratepayers of Sheffield are evidently of a philanthropic turn of mind. The Town Council has just accepted the following tenders:—For the supply of tramwaymen's uniform clothing, R. S. Whitworth, Ltd., 475 to 500 pairs of trousers, 11s. 9d. per pair, and 300 to 325 conductors' overcoats, 30s. 6d. each; West End Clothiers Co., Ltd., 475 to 500 pairs of trousers, 12s. 3d. per pair, and 300 to 325 motormen's overcoats, 31s. 6d. each; T. B. and W. Cockayne, Ltd., 500 pairs of gloves, 4s. per pair. It will be noticed that all the firms concerned are local houses, and it is presumed that the work in connection with the contracts will be performed by local labour. So far so good. But it has come to our knowledge that one firm which tendered unsuccessfully quoted several hundreds less than the total of those accepted. Thus, on a contract of, roughly, £2,000, the ratepayers of Sheffield are asked to provide £400 more than was necessary. This seems a very high percentage to pay for subsidising local trade, and it is quite possible that the good people of Sheffield do not fully realise their own generosity. Apart from this, it seems grossly unfair to advertise for tenders from outside firms, put them to the expense of samples, etc., and then totally ignore their estimates. If it is decided that a contract shall be given only to local firms, why not make that stipulation in the advertisements?

Just now there is a sort of boom in emigration, not only to Canada, but to Australia. We have frequently given reasons why young people thinking of emigrating to Canada should think twice before doing so, but it has generally been supposed that young women going to Australia are pretty sure of comfortable and immediate employment. We now learn, however, from the *Melbourne Age*, that a lengthy discussion has taken place at the meeting of the Ballarat Trades and Labour Council regarding the emigration of girls from the home country. The movement was strongly condemned, as it was felt that there was not sufficient employment for the native-born girls and others already in the Commonwealth. It was asserted that the market was greatly overstocked, and that many deserving men were bordering on starvation. It is true that the people already in Australia are for the most part opposed to emigration on selfish grounds; nevertheless, we advise full enquiry on the part of those who may be thinking of going out.

The Secretary of the National Anti-Vaccination League tells us he has just had a letter from a Bombay correspondent in which he is informed that the Young Men's Christian Association in that town have notified their boarders that unless they submit to vaccination they must leave. It appears that two of the members took small-pox. One died, but the other, who developed the disease two days after re-vaccination, had it only mildly, and the authorities attributed this to the fact that he had previously undergone the operation. The committee seems to be dominated by officials who are more used to dealing with natives than with Englishmen. As a matter of fact, Bombay is probably one of the best vaccinated towns in India, but small-pox is endemic there, and the children under 10 years of age furnish from one-half to four-fifths of the deaths, in spite of the fact that from 70 to 80 per cent. of them are vaccinated. We are not experts on this subject, but we like to give both sides.

A few days ago a young farm labourer named Blood was sentenced at Derby to two months' hard labour for tearing out the tongue of a horse. With all due respect to Shakespeare, it seems there is something in a name after all. In this case, we are of opinion, "Blood and judgment were not so well commingled" as they might have been. We should like to know the horse's opinion of the sentence.

The following copy of the "Votes and Proceedings" of the House of Commons for Saturday, May 7th, 1910, may be worth preserving:—

It having pleased Almighty God to take to His mercy Our late Most Gracious Sovereign Lord King Edward of blessed memory, who departed this life yesterday between the hours of eleven and twelve of the clock in the evening, at Buckingham Palace:

At Three of the clock the House met pursuant to The Succession to the Crown Act, 1707:

Several Members came into the House:

The Clerk at the Table informed the House of the unavoidable absence of Mr. Speaker and the Chairman of Ways and Means and the Deputy Chairman from this day's sitting:

Then Mr. Secretary Churchill (addressing himself to the Clerk who, standing up, pointed to him and then sat down) moved that this House do now adjourn:

The Clerk, by direction of the House, put the Question for adjourning the House.

And the House adjourned accordingly at two minutes after Three o'clock.

Some authorities are of opinion that every member who took part in the above proceedings is liable to a fine of £500 for doing so without having first taken the oath of allegiance to the new King. It is a moot point.

A correspondent writes asking whether we can explain to him how it is that a person who has been once in prison should be refused a licence for carrying on his business, whereas certain prominent politicians, who have also been in prison, are allowed to retain their seats in Parliament and are even qualified to be members of the Cabinet. We are afraid we must "give it up."

A Gravesend correspondent tells us that the German s.s. *Magdalena Fischer* arrived and anchored off that town on the afternoon of May 9th, with her flags at the mastheads. She was visited by an officer of the Thames Church Mission, who suggested to the captain that his flags should be lowered as a mark of respect to our late King. The captain, however, declined to fall in with the suggestion, whereupon the parson—and all honour to him—sent on board a newspaper cutting showing the Kaiser's command that all German flags should be at half-mast. Then all was well!

There is nothing new under the sun, and our ideas as to the humbug of Party government were anticipated 150 years ago. The following was published in the *Gentleman's Magazine* in the middle of the eighteenth century:—

Oh, what is a whig, sir—oh, what is a whig?
Oh, what is a whig and a tory?
In search of preferment they'll dance the same jig
And both tell the very same story.
For a tory's a whig, sir, a tory's a whig,
And a whig makes a very good tory;
Out of place they look little, when in they look big,
And both tell the very same story.

A Bristol reader sends us a poster issued by the Clerk of the Bridgwater Union, giving the names and addresses of all persons in receipt of outdoor relief, with their ages, extent of their families, amount of relief, cause of relief, and other particulars. The whole of these people are described as "outdoor paupers," and at the foot of the poster is the statement that "this list is circulated with a view of enabling any ratepayer to report any case which in his or her opinion is undeserving of relief." An enterprising solicitor ought to form a combination amongst these "paupers" to bring an action for libel against the Guardians. What say Carter and Bell?

It would seem difficult to speak an ill word of the great King who has passed away—especially whilst his body was awaiting burial—yet several of the speakers at a meeting of Social Democrats in Coventry managed to perform the task. Mr. H. M. Hyndman, the veteran leader of that cult, had the courage to rebuke them in a tribute which is worthy of notice. It may be crystallised in one sentence. "Taking everything into consideration, as Kings go," he said, "King Edward was a better Monarch than we are likely to look upon again," and this after a local Socialist had used language of the grossest depreciation and abuse. It is true Mr. Hyndman added that those present had no desire to be ruled at all by a Monarch or elected President, but that is in keeping with his lifelong professions. We suppose he wants to live under a system of government in which every man is a ruler unto himself; which would be by no means a bad thing if human nature would allow him to make a successful job of it without coming into collision with his neighbour.

The "friends of the workers" distinguished themselves at the last meeting of the Poplar Guardians. The chairman, Mr. A. W. Yeo, J.P., moved a vote of condolence with the Queen-Mother, the King and Queen, and the Royal Family on the death of King Edward. One guardian, a Mr. Watts, thought it fitting to exclaim, "I dissociate myself from that, Mr. Chairman," while three other members—one Sumner, one Payne, and one Smith, did not rise with their colleagues on the resolution being put. We suppose these people wanted a cheap advertisement. We have much pleasure in giving it them.

Studying accounts of the shocking disaster in the Whitehaven pit, we have been compelled to ask ourselves whether the best means were taken to get the fire out and the rescue operations in hand. The explosion was heard at the pit head on Wednesday night at 7.40. Mr. Henry, the under-manager, descended with two companions and found two men, Gregory and Walker, insensible, and to the revival of these two the three men devoted not less than 1½ hours. Gregory says it was not until 9.45 by his own watch when he was restored to consciousness. Two others who escaped, Kenmore and Wear, were at work in the extreme end of the pit. They had been discussing their situation in the pit for more than half-an-hour, when they commenced to make their difficult way out. The men left behind were quite safe, and had abundance of air. When Kenmore and Wear passed through the fumes at the friction gear the fire was so small that at first they thought it was a miner's lamp. They reached the pit mouth, exhausted by their long effort, about 1 a.m. Two volunteers with the Meco apparatus arrived late on Thursday night from Sheffield. They went down at 11.10, thirty hours after the explosion, and apparently almost reached the seat of the fire. On Friday the pit was sealed. The mine is between five and six miles in length, and the men entombed were a considerable distance from the friction gear. All these facts seem to lead up to the possibility—we will not press it further than that—that if, when Mr. Henry and his two companions had found Gregory and Walker, one of them had returned for volunteer assistance, the fire might have been put out. Valuable time appears to have been wasted, too, in getting the apparatus from Sheffield; but that apart, how is it that an apparatus of the kind was not easily available near the pit head?

Reports from the Abode of Love reveal that Ruth Preece has become the mother and Smyth-Pigott the father of another bouncing baby. It is called "Comet"—but it certainly isn't Halley's.

It surprises many people that though King Edward as Prince of Wales was a Freemason, the present King George V. never has been "initiated." And thereby hangs a tale. As our information comes, it is that His Majesty desired to be informed concerning the mysteries of the craft, as a condition precedent to submitting himself to the ritual. It was, however, found to be impracticable to treat His Majesty differently from any other novice, and the result was that he declined to become a "brother." If our correspondent correctly states the facts, they go to prove that His Majesty is not likely to take things for granted. He will certainly desire to convince himself before he acts in matters where he has the right of decision.

What has become of the romantic little band who call themselves Legitimists? Up to the time of going to press they have not issued any protest against the succession of King George V., who from their point of view is an usurper, as have been all the Kings and Queens of England since the Stuarts. According to them, the rightful Monarch is the wife of Prince Louis of Bavaria, Mary Theresa Henrietta, Archduchess of Austria-Este-Modena. Until a few months ago there certainly was in existence a Thames Valley Legitimist League. Perhaps we may hear of it yet.

Who is responsible for the issuing of the leaflet largely distributed among the crowd during the funeral procession, suggesting that the death of King Edward was due to the vaccine treatment he underwent more than a year ago? There is not a single fact to support any such suggestion, which would be not only distressing to the Queen-Mother and the Royal Family if they were aware of it, but is quite unfair to the distinguished medical attendants who gave their devoted service and wide experience to the late King. There is such a thing as spoiling a cause—however good—by overdoing it.

An Army correspondent writes:—

It is only about six months ago that the Royal Field Artillery Brigade, now stationed at Fermoy, arrived there, and now they are again under orders to move. This is very hard upon the married men. It is all right for single men, but when it comes to moving with half-a-dozen children, and breaking up one's little home in such a short time, it is heart-breaking, and it is infinitely worse for those poor creatures who are not on the strength, and who had to pay their fares from England to Fermoy only quite recently. It means that their wives and children will have to remain behind until the husbands get sufficient money scraped up to bring them on. What will become of them in the meantime may be better imagined than described. It is said that this is some new scheme of the Army Council, but surely the Council must have had their plans arranged some months before the Brigade left England and fitted in the move to suit the circumstances now contemplated. Cannot Mr. Haldane see his way to give at least an extension of a year beyond the time appointed for their removal? This would give them two years instead of four, which I understand is the usual stay of a Brigade at Fermoy, and I feel sure that even this short respite would be appreciated by the men. Tommy, his wife and children, do not grumble at an ordinary move, feeling when it is over they can settle down for three or more years, but when after six months they are told to be in readiness to go, it is no wonder that the spirit is taken out of them. We shall be glad to hear what Mr. Haldane thinks of the suggestion.

This is to state that we went through the comet's tail last Thursday, according to programme arranged by the astronomers, and felt no ill-effects of same; but we are still looking for the comet.

Mr. Edison, not content with having inflicted the phonograph and other instruments of torture upon suffering humanity, has again proved himself an implacable enemy to the race by constructing a mechanical shop assistant. All the customer has to do is to point the indicator at the article required, put the price in the slot, and the goods are delivered forthwith, wrapped up in a neat parcel. The idea will never catch on in England. Deprive the average Englishwoman on shopping bent of the joy of brow-beating a tired and distracted counter-hand, and the chief charm of bargain-hunting will have evaporated. Besides, where is the woman who knows what she wants when she enters the shop?

Again, the excitement of shopping would be gone. The ladies might, it is true, work up a scrimmage round the slot machine; but at best it could not compare with the ecstasy of snatching articles from one another's hands at the open counter. No, the idea is altogether too prosaic. No longer could delightful afternoons be spent in examining roll after roll of material, box after box of fal-lals, brought by a perspiring and expectant assistant, who is informed at the finish that "It is not quite what I want," and whose total sales after two hours' hard work is a penny reel of No. 40 black cotton. And what about the fashionable kleptomaniac? Where does she come in? Her occupation would be gone, or, at least, she would be reduced to the degrading necessity of "doing" the slot machine by means of French pennies, or spurious coins. Change the present methods of shopping, deprive woman of her inalienable right to indulge her primitive instincts periodically, and she will look around for some other outlet for her energies—in which case the remedy might prove worse than the disease.

It was about time some of the fussy persons who call themselves Vigilance Societies should have a lesson. Thanks to Mr. Alexander Goodall, a Glasgow publican, the Citizens' Vigilance Association have had one. This Association, through their solicitor, a Mr. Kyle, got up a case against Mr. Goodall. On behalf of the Association, Mr. Kyle went into the Glasgow Licensing Court of Appeal and made objections, as a result of which Mr. Goodall's licence was not renewed, his premises were closed, and he suffered considerable damage in character and pocket. The publican, therefore, sued Mr. Kyle and certain members of the Vigilance Association who were city justices, and after summing up by the Lord President, the jury returned a verdict against the defendants with £500 damages.

Allowing for local differences, the objections which formed the basis of the action were those made familiar by the advocates for the Paul Prys of a similar class of fanatics in this country. That is to say, they alleged that Goodall was not a fit and proper person to conduct a public-house, which he allowed to be used as the resort of dissolute men and women. Now a Licensing Court—at any rate in Scotland—is not a place where slanderous statements are "privileged," and as Mr. Kyle could not prove to the satisfaction of a jury that the objections he raised were well founded in fact, he and his co-defendants have had to pay for their crusading. We trust Vigilance Associations will take the moral of this case to heart; which is that even publicans are not to be slandered with impunity and damaged or ruined in their business by unmuzzled teetotalers at large in a Licensing Court.

We wonder how that Departmental enquiry which Mr. Gladstone set on foot into the working of the Public-house Clause of the Children Act is progressing. At Stockport a Mr. Benjamin Russon, the licensee of an inn, has just been fined because one evening his wife,

who carries on a dressmaker's business upstairs, whilst "fitting on" a girl's dress permitted her little sister, aged ten years, to stroll into the bar. There can be no doubt about it—we are a free people.

And here is another case. A man has been fined at Worthing for "obtaining beer by falsely representing himself to be a 'traveller.'" His defence was that he "thought he had walked three miles." But that would not do for "P.C. Gilbert," who swore that "he had measured the distance and found it to be 2 miles and 1,097 yards!"

Who says we are not a free country? One of our readers, writing from Poole, says that two weeks ago he was fined 11s. for serving a little girl with a half-pennyworth of baking powder on a Sunday—the police constable stating that he had watched the shop for some hours, and had seen three or four people enter and make purchases, before pouncing upon the little girl. The query naturally arises, why did he let the others go?

It is very difficult to find the right point of view in cases such as that of Mrs. Louisa Matilda Darrell, of Monks Soham, who pleaded guilty before the Norwich magistrates to stealing diamond rings, her method being to go into shops, ask to see the rings, and substitute commoner ones for them when the backs of the salesmen were turned. On behalf of the lady it was pleaded that it was a case of sudden temptation. She was "well connected," but "for some time past she had been suffering in health from a complaint which affected her brain, so much so that she was not responsible for her actions." Now, so far as that is true it is a good plea, and if the Norwich magistrates were satisfied it was true their action in binding over the lady for six months to come up for judgment is not open to the smallest exception. But, somehow or another, magisterial leniency in a case of this kind always raises the question whether a poor woman would so lightly escape the clutches of the law.

Gush is not a sign of either strength or dignity. It may be all very well in hysterical females or foreigners, but it clashes with the traditional character of John Bull. It seems to us, therefore, that the majority of papers have failed to interpret public sentiment by their exuberance of adjectival lamentation over the demise of the Crown. Great silent crowds, with bared heads, the mourning march of sorrowing soldiers, the plaintive dirges of military music: these are fitting tributes to the termination of a great reign. But historians who peruse the files of our journals will be driven to the erroneous conclusion that we wear our hearts upon our sleeves.

By the way, why was the funeral procession purely military and naval? Why was no room found for members of the Government, judges, scientists, divines, inventors, explorers, men of letters, merchant princes, and other workers in the field of national development? Are they to be held of no account in the reign of a monarch, whose noblest title was Peacemaker? The King's horse and dog were there, but not his Prime Minister or his Lord Chancellor; there were deputations from foreign armies and navies, but none from the Houses of Parliament. The very firemen and policemen were trotted out, but only because they possess a semi-military organisation.

For a long time the Turkish press has been calling for a publication of the secret reports accumulated during the reign of Abdul Hamid. It is significant that the successful revolutionaries, who call themselves Young Turks, are vehemently opposing this suggestion. Can it be that many of their names appear in the documents as spies or recipients of bribes?

According to the *Stamford Mercury*, the Marquis of Exeter presided at the fortnightly meeting of the Board of Guardians recently, when "the master, Mr. F. W. Everdell, asked that the inmates of the work-house might be allowed to have sugar with their rhubarb." The guardians wisely granted this piteous appeal. If they had not done so, the ratepayers would probably have been put to even greater expense.

Baden-Powell has been placed on retired pay—is it at his own request?—in order that he may devote his martial ardour more completely to the Boy Scouts. Thus, does a brilliant and picturesque figure leave the Army to play at soldiers with little boys. Still, remembering Mafeking, we salute him.

Mr. Alexander Tucker, Peter of Servia's Consul-General in London, has just lost an action, claiming a commission in a money-lending transaction. Poor Peter will have to console himself with an extra glass of plum-brandy.

Sailors take a pride in exhibiting their indifference to equestrian exercise, and would have preferred that George V. should have driven or walked in the funeral procession.

THE WEEK'S "CHESTNUT":—

From a reader: "While waiting for a 'bus at Ludgate Circus last night I heard a news-seller yelling at the pitch of his voice, 'Bottomley Libel Case, Reezult.' He was a pugnacious-looking individual, and it behoved me to think twice before attempting to correct him. In my mildest manner I remarked to him that the case had nothing whatever to do with libel, whereupon he opened one of his papers and proudly pointed out the following words in the report, 'Mr. Bottomley denied liability.' After that, I hadn't a leg to stand on. Luckily, my 'bus drew up and I was assisted to a seat."

THE JOHN BULL LEAGUE HAS ITS EYE ON—



THE CONTEMPTIBLE CUR WHO REFUSED TO DON MOURNING FOR THE LATE KING, REGARDING ANY ORDERS ON THE SUBJECT AS AN INTERFERENCE WITH HIS PERSONAL LIBERTY.

"John Bull's" Biscuits.

NOTICE.—No biscuits for mistakes made by newspapers in connection with the late King Edward.

WANTED ADVTs.—No biscuits for employers requiring "live" or "hand-sewn" men—the first adjective is a colloquialism, and the second a trade term. Nor do we give any to the respectable women who want washing, or to anyone suffering from "tears in his voice," or to compositors who confuse "deceased" with "accused."

EMPTY HOUSES, ETC.—Biscuits are also refused in respect of empty houses containing furniture, empty nests "disclosing" eggs, etc., etc.

For the sentence "Every conceivable kind of POTTERY is to be found, from exquisite flower vases down to SHIRT STUDS,"

THE STAR
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For announcing "Required, good FLAT General,"
AN ADVERTISER IN THE DAILY TELEGRAPH
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For referring to "hundreds of nurses with PERAMBULATORS or babies IN THEIR ARMS,"

THE DAILY TELEGRAPH
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in their advertisement, "The one-half of the LIES you hear are not true,"
THE PROPRIETORS OF "CASTALIA HORSE FEED"
TAKE THE BISCUIT.

For offering "Dark blue PIANO, best make, very good condition; summer canopy complete, 42s.,"

AN ADVERTISER IN THE WANDSWORTH
BOROUGH NEWS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in the report of an accident that "when extricated it was found that two had been KILLED outright and four MORE OR LESS SERIOUSLY,"

THE DAILY DISPATCH
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that "it is evident by the zeal and enthusiasm of our young members that Temperance is very deeply rooted in their minds, and we sincerely hope that nothing will ever PREVENT its being uprooted,"

THE HAYLING ISLAND CHURCH MAGAZINE
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For the following description:—"A beefy countryman with a horse-whip in one hand and a CLENCHED FIST in the other,"

PEARSON'S WEEKLY
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that "Miss Constance Iva Anson was married to Mr. Robert Corley Howle, eldest DAUGHTER of Mr. Robert Howle,"

THE BIRMINGHAM NEWS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For the following announcements:—

I hereby give notice I shall not be responsible after May 1st for anything left of Baron Rudbeck at 182, Stockwell Road.—Z. GOLDSPIK.

Have you heard the ditty "Two Lovely Black Eyes" in 40 languages?

THE RESPECTIVE ADVERTISERS IN THE EVENING
NEWS
TAKE BISCUITS.

For stating that "In New Guinea a woman who has lost her husband will FREQUENTLY commit suicide,"

THE SHEFFIELD WEEKLY TELEGRAPH
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For announcing that at its Annual Social Meeting, "The Service of Song 'Fighting for the Queen' will be rendered by the Music Class, and there will ALSO be MUSICAL and other items,"

THE OFFICIALS OF THE BOVEVAGH
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
TAKE THE BISCUIT.

"NURSING HOMES," OR—— ?

[This series of articles commenced in our issue of May 14th.]

OUR SPECIAL COMMISSIONER BUSY COLLECTING EVIDENCE.—INTERVIEWS WITH FAMOUS WEST-END SOLICITOR AND HARLEY STREET PHYSICIAN.

As announced last week, we have engaged a Special Commissioner to thoroughly investigate the true character of many of the so-called Nursing Homes, Homes of Rest, Massage Establishments, and other places which, by means of specious advertisements and a network of agents, are carrying on in London a vast trade in vice and infamy of the vilest description. We give below some of the results of his enquiries—but the more serious must await the completion of the proofs we are now collecting.

INTERVIEW WITH FAMOUS SOLICITOR.

One of the first persons seen by our representative was a well-known West-end solicitor, who has acted in most of the cases of this kind which have come before the Courts.

"There can be no doubt," said he, "that your campaign will spread consternation amongst the fraternity—or, rather, the sisterhood. It is quite true that owing to a lull in police and press activity there has been a great growth of the evil during the past few years—and it is more rife to-day than at any previous time within my knowledge. Yes, cases are being constantly hushed up. Only last week a well-known public man came to me. He was the victim of a cleverly laid trap to blackmail him, and was on the point of parting with a large sum of money. Fortunately for him, I knew all about the people. Here is the address—let your man call there."

The address having been duly noted, together with much further and valuable information, our Commissioner asked:—

"Can you give me a general idea of the methods adopted by these people?"

The solicitor went to a locker, and taking out a bundle of papers, replied:—

"Well, here is one case. It was the subject of a scandal five or six years ago. A prominent journalist and an army colonel were implicated. They took up with a woman, and put her in a 'nursing' establishment in Old Burlington Street. Eight or nine young girls were taken on as 'nurses' and 'masseuses,' and a roaring business was done. Then a detective was put on the track of the place. He went on several occasions for the 'massage,' with the same result every time. But one day, instead of producing a bank-note, he produced a warrant and arrested the lot of them. The next morning both the journalist and the colonel came to me and offered themselves as bail, which was accepted in £1,000. Eminent counsel were retained, and every conceivable influence was brought to bear to hush up the case—many important names being implicated. In the end, the magistrate inflicted a fine of £50 and costs. That woman had made upwards of £10,000 out of the business, after living on the fat of the land. She had her private carriages and used to drive the girls in the Park of an afternoon—where they could be seen daily chatting to all sorts of well-known people."

Then the famous lawyer spoke of other cases—promising our representative all the assistance in his power.

BIG ESTABLISHMENT CLOSING.

On the morning of the publication of our last issue the proprietor of a certain "home" in North London considered it wise to have a notice board, "Christian Home for Young Girls," removed from his front door.

One big establishment right in the heart of the West End is even showing signs of closing its doors altogether. It may do so as soon as it pleases, as our evidence against it is complete and damning. Guests in this

establishment go for the "complete rest cure," and pay from 15 to 20 guineas a week.

The proprietor is constantly advertising for young ladies to learn the nursing profession, and charges a premium of £10. These girls receive no pay whatever, and must serve two years before receiving a "certificate." And in the meantime, what happens? These girls are sent out as qualified nurses when requisitioned by physicians for urgent and critical cases, and from two to three guineas a week is charged for their services!

INTERVIEW WITH HARLEY STREET PHYSICIAN.

Our representative put the case before a well-known Harley Street doctor, a few days ago, and asked him his opinion. "Deplorable," he said, "but what is to be done? Ninety per cent. of the medical profession are in favour of a proper system of training for nurses, and compulsory registration of both nurses and nursing homes."

"I won't say *all* nursing homes are bad," he continued, "but they are certainly all suspect, on account of the shocking depravity that is known to exist in certain ones." And then he related a case, which had come under his own special notice. "Not long ago, I was called in to see a wealthy man. His case was a critical one, and required rest and very careful nursing. As he wished to go to a certain nursing home I had to agree, and subsequently I visited him there. I ordered two nurses, one for day and one for night. He did not progress, and I advised him to remove to private apartments where I could have him entirely under my special care, and nursed by my own nurses. I knew his case thoroughly by this time, and had suspicion as to certain relations which took place, thereby not only retarding his cure, but which were slowly killing him. He refused to be removed, and in consequence I left the case. Two months afterwards he died, and the proprietor of the establishment benefited to the extent of some two thousand pounds when the will was read."

"But," asked our Commissioner, "shouldn't an enquiry have been held, and the facts of the case laid bare?"

He smiled. "Facts laid bare!" he said. Then he drew from his pocket his card-case, took out a pencil, wrote an address on it, and said, "Take this card to the gentleman whose address I have written, and he will supply you with ample evidence of such a character that should not only at once close these massage establishments, but which should at once place all these so-called homes under proper control and supervision."

WHAT A GREAT MEDICAL SOCIETY SAYS.

Our representative took the card to the address named, that of a well-known medical society. We perused the evidence—evidence all most carefully selected and sworn.

In its bare nakedness it is simply unprintable. No decent compositor would set it up. In point of fact, its lewdness has never been equalled in any country or at any time.

In our next article, we shall endeavour to give a *précis* of that evidence in language which should convey its meaning, while we shall spare the blushes of all right-minded and clean-lived Britishers, who are not responsible for allowing certain "carriers"—dressed in the human form divine—to live amongst them.

SPECIOUS ADVERTISEMENTS.

As the evidence is principally connected with "massage establishments," it will be as well just for a moment to see how they are thriving. We take up a

morning paper of April 27th last, and find some forty different establishments advertise. Without exception they are all run by females. One can be treated for the scalp or complexion, ennui, depression, nervous debility, and for "tired eyes after motoring." As a stamp of respectability one establishment guarantees that it has "separate rooms for ladies and gentlemen"!

The uniform time for these operations is from 11 a.m. to 7.30 p.m.; Sundays, 3 to 7 p.m. Quite respectable hours! Hours which completely throw dust in the eyes of the police. The hours also satisfy the conscience of the newspaper editors. We shall be able to prove, however, that once the new patient is introduced he may attend at what hour he thinks fit—be it three in the afternoon, or three in the morning.

A WARNING.

We advise any of our readers who may be innocently visiting any of these establishments not to set out with the idea that it will only cost them the price of an ordinary Turkish bath. Until such time as they are used to the place, and become somewhat familiar with those who run it, they will imagine that it is conducted on quite respectable business lines. Of course, it will seem a little expensive, but then when one basks in Oriental luxury, is bathed in fragrant perfumes, is waited upon by female confections clad in chiffon, one will probably not grumble at a fancy fee, with an "extra" thrown in for the "nurse."

But when they become more used to the "treatment," the fee will be suddenly and substantially increased, and there will be no escape from the clutches of the proprietors.

OUTWARD APPEARANCES.

As to the outward appearances of these "massage" places, nearly all of which are situated within a mile of Piccadilly Circus. Some are in flats, and the only outward sign is a small brass plate with "Nurse So and So" inscribed. Others are situated over shops, and some are private houses. On one of these private houses we have been keeping observation. "Apartments to let" appears in almost every window, and, of course, a good many people go in and out. Many of them are well known to the police, and we have secured ample evidence of identification.

WHAT *The Practitioner* SAYS.

The science of advertising has of late years made such rapid strides that, as a system, it might be said to have almost reached perfection. With good, wholesome, bold advertisement we have no quarrel, but we think that the growing tendency to put laudatory matter into an advertisement, which appears in a respectable journal, and then to announce it, in subsequent advertisements, as the publicly-expressed opinion of that journal, is one to which serious objection has recently been rightly taken. Still another scandal, and it is indeed a scandal, is the insertion, in respectable mediums for advertising, of what we may term a veiled advertisement. The action of local authorities in driving Aspasia, and her more shameless followers, from off the public streets, has led, amongst other devices, to a system of disguise. Hence it happens that, included among the advertisements of nursing homes, and institutions for massage, etc., are advertisements of places in which Aspasia revels uncontrolled. It is on behalf of the unwary that we would make an appeal. We would respectfully urge upon all medical practitioners, when recommending a patient to go to a nursing home, or to take a course of massage or similar treatment, to include, in that recommendation, the name of such an establishment as is altogether above suspicion. It is intolerable that Aspasia should adopt as a disguise one of the noblest callings to which her purer sisters can devote themselves.

(To be continued.)

PIETY AND PROFIT.

A CHEMIST AND TWO TAILORS.

We have before us a quaint collection of trade handbills in which religion and business are beautifully blended. For instance, Mr. W. S. Howorth, a Plumstead chemist, in proclaiming the virtues of his various concoctions, also proclaims the Gospel, and after an impassioned appeal to his customers to "believe and trust in the efficacy of Christ's death," proceeds to dilate upon the efficacy of his "Anti-flatus—a most successful remedy for wind." Then there is "Mrs. Lugsdin and her son, Robert," the "Reliable Clothiers," of Carnforth, who say that their hearts "are full," and that they "know Heaven and earth are one"—wherefore they "will rejoice and be glad"—especially if the Carnforth folk will come to them for "ready-mades," etc. And another practical Christian is Mr. R. C. I. Roberts, of Leicester, "Christian Socialist," and professor of "Tailoring for all classes," with "Repairs a speciality." He is satisfied that "the new age, or Christ's Kingdom, can start," if people would only send him to "the British senate," when he would "fix all men's wages at £3 per week for life and shorten the hours to five per day." He heads his handbill—"Thy Kingdom Come; or, Help Me To-day," and asserts that any order given him will "help to spread his social propaganda, and your trousers will be cut to fit you from the latest system"—presumably of Christian Socialism! We really must run down to Plumstead, Carnforth and Leicester—with our whip.

"THE WINCHCOMBE GUARDS' MESS SCANDAL."

MR. HALDANE TAKING ACTION.

With further reference to this matter, we learn that Mr. Haldane has asked the General Officer Commanding, London district, to report upon the circumstances of the mess contract of the Guards Brigade during their encampment at Winchcombe last year. He will find the facts to be as we have stated them, namely, that their mess caterer, who is an undischarged bankrupt, got credit for a large sum from the Winchcombe tradesmen, left without paying anybody, tried to shield himself, when pressed, by saying that others are liable, and the little paid came only after threats and County Court summonses!

THE ENGLISHMAN IN CANADA.

One of our readers, writing from Cotham P.O., Sask., Canada, under date April 29th, says:—

I take great interest in your articles concerning Canada. I am an Englishman and have been here nearly two years. Your articles of recent date are quite correct as far as my experience goes out in the West, but I think they refer to the unskilled labour class, as a man who is good at his work can always find a job. The fault with an Englishman is, to my mind, that he is a little bigoted and will not be shown by a Canadian, who, as a rule, they seem to despise.

OUR NEW MAMMOTH POSTER.

INTERESTING PRIZE COMPETITION.

Readers will be interested to know that our New Mammoth Poster for the Strand Island hoarding—The Political Derby—is rapidly approaching completion, and will be in position within a few days of the publication of this issue. As already announced, it consists of a huge oil painting 80 ft. by 40 ft., in which public men of all parties are depicted, riding for the Political Derby—amongst the runners being:—Open Mind (Balfour up); Tariff Reform (Chamberlain up); Home Rule (Redmond up); Budget (Lloyd George up); Veto (Asquith up); Lonely Furrow (Rosebery up); Woolsack (F. E. Smith up); Socialism (Keir Hardie up); Waterbutt (Whittaker up); and a host of other runners, with Business Government (Bottomley up) romping home!

In the company of spectators is seen the King, many of the Ministers of the Crown, Miss Pankhurst, Mr. Hunnabell, Mr. Winston Churchill and others.

An unique feature of the "unveiling" of the picture will be the offer of a prize of £100 to the person who within seven days of the first appearance of the Poster, sends us the most complete list of celebrities shown in the picture.

PRISON TREATMENT.

THE "FIGURE OF EIGHT."

A man who came out of Maidstone Convict Prison last month has come to us to complain of the figure of eight. The figure of eight is a piece of iron made in the form of the figure 8, and it is used to confine the hands at the back of the body, or at the front, as the case may be. Our visitor complains that it is a brutal punishment, and that it was inflicted upon him before he had been proved guilty of the offence with which he was charged. The facts, as he alleges, are briefly as follows:—

The prisoners at the Maidstone Gaol are subjected to various petty annoyances by the warders, and as a protest our visitor refused to work. He was put into his cell at 5.10 p.m. and was told to put his clothes outside the door at 6.30. With the object of being tried by the Visiting Committee of Magistrates he tore up the clothes and lodged them as directed at 6.30. At 6.45, four warders came to his cell and confined his hands in the figure of eight. The man says that the effect of keeping the hands in this position for an hour is to produce a numbness in the shoulders and excruciating pain. It is impossible to get relief by shifting the arms because the figure of eight is rigid. At 8 o'clock the warders came into his cell, and, releasing his hands, confined them again in the figure of eight, this time to rest on his chest. It would be impossible for the man to sleep with his hands confined behind him, and so during the night they are confined in front. At 7 the next morning the figure of eight was taken off and his hands confined again behind, where they remained so placed until 11.30, by which time the pain had nearly driven him mad. At 11.30 they were taken off for something like 20 minutes in order that he might eat his dinner, and then they were put on again until 5.10, when there was 10 minutes' relief for another meal. And then again till 8. Altogether the man's hands were confined front and back for 34 hours, and the whole of that time he was kept in his cell. There is an electric bell there, some 5 feet above the ground, which he is supposed to ring when he wants to go to the lavatory. But he tells us that when his hands were confined in the figure of eight it was impossible to touch this bell. He assures us that his experience was by no means novel.

Our informant is an ex-convict, but he is a very intelligent man, and he says that what he tells us is true. What do the Prison Authorities say to it? Do they use the figure of eight as described? Is the pain consequent upon its use as described? Are the decencies of life ignored as hinted at?

"THE REPUGNANCE TO MARRIAGE."

WHAT SOME OF OUR READERS THINK OF MATRIMONY.

Our recent article upon this subject has elicited many exceedingly interesting letters, giving a great variety of views upon this vitally important subject. We much regret that the heavy pressure upon our space prevents our giving more than the following two extracts from this correspondence, representing two opposite views.

An Egham reader wonders "why people persist in calling the woman's sphere 'Home and Motherhood.' She thinks that "at one time it may have been so, but nowadays there are very few women who have the strength or courage to endure it on a small income." Her husband lost a comfortable situation simply because they had children, and other men employed by the same firm have had to give up their situations for the same cause. She has six children and does her own housework, besides making the children's clothes, etc., while her husband works sixteen hours a day. It is a constant struggle to make ends meet. She asks, "Do the people who write letters to the papers, and the clergymen who preach sermons about the declining birth-rate, know anything of this perpetual struggle with poverty?"

"Nature never breaks her laws," says a Ramsgate lady; "man breaks himself against them; and this, slowly but surely, is what the over-civilised man and woman, with their repugnance to marriage, are doing." She admits that some married women do look a bit miserable at times, but when the cares of a family are over, a married woman seldom falls a victim to the "blue devils" of "nerves," such as their single sisters get as years go on. The medical man, consulted by young women sufferers from brain fag, nervous breakdown and neurasthenia, prescribes a rest cure, though in his inmost heart he is longing to shake them and tell them that wifehood and motherhood is their salvation of body and brain. "Where will it end? Maybe, a few sexless idiots will see that!"

THE PORT OF LONDON AND ITS STAFF.

SERIOUS INJUSTICE THREATENED TO DOCK EMPLOYEES.

On April 1st of last year the whole of the docks were transferred to the Port of London Authority. Previously to this, the docks were controlled by the London and India Docks Joint Committee, The Surrey Commercial Docks Co., and The Millwall Dock Co. The latter company represented about an eighth of the dock interest in London, and enjoyed the reputation of being the cheapest, smartest and quickest dock in London. This reputation was gained by its efficient management and staff, both of whom worked together harmoniously. A classification of the staffs of the whole of the docks has been promised, but meanwhile the officers of the late Joint Committee, being numerically superior, are in control, and are appropriating all the best positions, and Millwall Dock is being frozen out and its staff gradually distributed over other docks. This is most unjust to the staff at Millwall Docks, as the London and India Docks Joint Committee and the Millwall Dock Co. had different systems of staffing.

The London and India Docks Joint Committee staff is divided into an "upper" and "lower" division, the upper division being called "officers" and the lower division "servants"—an anachronism in the twentieth century, as it is purely a social difference. Promotion from the lower to the upper division is almost, if not entirely, unknown, and the unfortunate employee who entered the service of the late London and India Docks Joint Committee in the lower division soon found that no matter what his ambitions, no matter what his education, intelligence or business ability, he could never hope to earn more than 50s. per week, and this figure was only reached in rare cases and at a late period in life. To add to his humiliations, he had to be careful to say "Sir" when addressing an "officer" (who might be a boy earning £35 per annum), but was never accorded even the courtesy of "Mr." before his name when addressed by an "officer," and if he performed clerical duties he was not a clerk, but was officially described as a "writer."

If the London and India Docks officials have their way, this unbusinesslike system will be perpetuated under the Port of London Authority.

This would be most unjust to the staff at Millwall Docks, where no such social distinctions exist, and where any position might be aspired to by any member of the staff, and most of the positions worth having were filled by men who had risen from the ranks.

The London and India Docks Joint Committee has its late secretary and at least two of its late directors on the Port of London Authority, but Millwall Dock has no "friends at court." The late manager of Millwall Dock, Mr. George Hazlehurst, a man in the prime of life, and one of the keenest and most efficient dock managers in London, has been "allowed" to retire with £500 a year pension, and the late secretary is, we understand, to follow in his footsteps at the same figure, and other lesser officials at Millwall Docks have had to take their pensions, and others it is fairly evident to those on the spot are to follow.

It should be remembered that the Port of London Act, 1908, provides that:—

"Every officer and servant of the several dock companies . . . shall hold his office or situation by the same tenure and upon like terms and conditions . . . under the Port Authority, as he would have held the same under the body from whom he is transferred if this Act had not been passed."

The matter is a serious one, and calls for prompt attention.

LINES ON THE DEATH OF A KING.

Freedom at last! Freedom!
That which thou never yet hast known
Thy God hath given thee
At last, to be thy very own.
The poorest of thy subjects
Knew more of liberty than thee,
Who lived thy life in fetters,
Gilt manacles of monarchy.
O, mockery of kingship,
Built on that mutable caprice
High named the "People's Will"!
That robs the King himself of Peace!
Pity thy Kings, O Demos,
Begot of thy resistless power;
And hug thyself, poor outcast,
God's liberty, thy dower.

H. W.

"SPOOFING THE ADMIRALTY."**REMARKABLE REVELATIONS OF HOW GOVERNMENT INSPECTORS ARE DECEIVED.****BY A WORKING MAN.**

In the year 1900 I became apprenticed to one of the largest and best-known shipbuilding firms in this country, who make a great speciality of Government work, and it was whilst serving that apprenticeship that I first became alive to the wholesale "spoofing" of our Admiralty. "Spoofing" is undoubtedly carried on from the time the keel plates are laid right up to the time the ship leaves the builders' hands. This "spoofing," or as it is better known to workmen as "faking," is carried on in many forms. I could quote dozens which have from time to time come under my notice, but two or three cases will suffice to show the condition of things as they exist.

Whilst working upon one of our cruisers in 1901 I chanced to be in a certain compartment, when the Government inspector was brought down to inspect or pass the caulking and rivetting on a bulkhead of the next compartment, which had been duly filled with water for the purpose of testing the joints or seam of the overlapping plates. The whole of the bulkhead on our side presenting a water-tight appearance, the inspector, without more ado, expressed his satisfaction, and dabbed a paint brush along the particular part, signifying passed, and away he went to make his report. But stay! come with me behind the scenes. This particular place had been filled with water very early in the morning. The inspector was brought about 3 p.m. What of the interval? As soon as the water had risen to the level of the joint it began to leak very badly, so much so that the bag containing my tools was speedily wet. About 10.30 a.m. the tester (as a caulker's inspector is called), coming to test the work, beat a hasty retreat upon seeing the leakage, only to return shortly accompanied by two workmen, one carrying a bag of sawdust and the other some string and a block of tallow; these latter they proceeded to pack in between the defective joint, thus staying a further inrush of water. A few minutes later a bag of rust was brought down and sprinkled along the top of the joint, giving to it the appearance of a properly finished job. After everything was made nice and dry with the aid of the sawdust which in turn was duly swept away, the Government inspector was brought down, and was "spoofed."

A year later I was working upon another of the cruisers building for the British Admiralty, and saw the Government inspector condemn a portion of teak wood deck planks. These were duly carried off to the carpenters' shop, where they were "faked," and at the end of three weeks brought back, used and passed!

How necessary to the lives of our Tars are water-tight doors, yet times without number have I seen these "faked" so as just to escape the eye of the overseer.

Another common occurrence is to see small holes which have been drilled in the wrong place plugged up with putty or candle, and then daubed over with a paint brush, instead of being plugged up in a proper manner with steel; paper liners placed behind jobs where steel ones are supposed to be, and many others of a like character. But for downright "spoof" I think this will take a lot of beating. I was employed upon a certain battleship in the years 1904-5, which is now hailed as one of the finest in the Service. One day the foreman plumber brought the Government inspector down to No. 3 stokehold to pass the whole of the galvanised water piping and drain boxes. One of the latter he ordered to be removed and a new one put in to replace it. Two days after he came again and passed the very drain box which he had previously condemned. I will tell you how this was done. Shortly after he had paid his first visit, a plumber and an apprentice came upon the scene armed with a tin of galvanic "paint," some waste, a small brush, and a portion of red lead putty. After half-an-hour's work I saw, and must confess that if I had not known otherwise I should have taken it to be a new box altogether. They had first wiped all grease and dirt away with the waste, then they had given it a coat of the "paint," after which they had skilfully, with the aid of a pocket-knife, laid the red lead putty around the joint of the box cover, also around the whole of the washers, giving the whole the appearance of being all that was desired.

RUBBER ROMANCES.**By JOHN W. LETHABY.****THE RUBBER FORTUNES SYNDICATE.**

John K. Bell was an American optimist, with a rubber neck and an elastic conscience. He had been dreaming rubber ever since the stress of competition in the dry goods line in Boston, Mass., had thrown him up on the banks of the Amazon, to act as clerical factotum to a Brazilian store at Santander.

Now the geographical position of that salubrious town, right on the line, and a thousand miles or more from the river mouth, produced in men a thirst that was quenchless and a temper that was warm. In the little blue *bolequin* facing the Rio Negro, John K. was wont to partake of his gin-sling in the company of a few compatriots engaged in the export and growth of rubber. There in the low, white-washed bar was brought into being the famous Rubber Fortunes Syndicate.

"Say, Joe! rubber is at three dollars in New York, and soaring like a Fourth of July rocket! What price the promotion of a little company to bring those twenty leagues of mine at Sacharino, before the trustful investor in London Town?"

"John K.," groaned his house-mate, Joseph O'Hagan, "sure it's the Blarney Stone ye must have kissed. Devil a cent is the swamp worth to any man, with its malarial stink and its bloodthirsty mosquitoes."

"Frank, give me paper, pen and ink, and a box of Danemanns; this is a three cigar job. Here goes for a flutter, in which you gossoons will be darned glad to chip in your hard-earned dollars by the time I'm through!"

The Sacharino estate is of twenty leagues extent with a frontage to the river of five miles . . .

"Rotten mud, alive with alligators," broke in Smithers.

After careful consultation with that well-known authority on Para rubber, Dr. D. R. Smithers, consulting botanist to the State of Barjonas . . .

"Gardener on the Governor's cabbage patch," murmured that eminent horticulturist.

the following very conservative estimate has been prepared; the figures have been attested by H. W. Marvel, Esq., Patagonian Vice-Consul at Santander:—

Each acre bears 50 trees.	
Each tree planted can give 10 lbs. per annum.	
Estate consists of 38,400 acres.	
Yearly product expected 19,200,000 lbs.	
This at 5s. per lb. equals	£4,800,000
Deduct cost of collection, freight, etc., at 2s.	1,920,000

Net profit . . . £2,880,000
or sufficient to pay a dividend equal to over ten times the capital of a quarter of a million.

"But, man alive," cried Marvel, a pallid, tired-looking broker, "there's not a tree on the place, nor ever will be."

The vendor agrees to accept one hundred thousand pounds in cash, balance in shares.

Capital—£250,000 in £1 shares.

Chairman.—John K. Bell, Esq., Merchant, Santander.
Directors.—H. W. Marvel, Esq., Patagonian Vice-Consul; Jos. O'Hagan, Esq., Accountant; D. R. Smithers, D.Sc. (Bull Run Univ., U.S.A.), C. B. Government Gardens; Gilbert Barwick, Esq., F.I.C., Las Cocas, Amazon River.

Secretary and Offices.—G. L. Bell, 164Z, London Wall, E.C.

Labour.—Abundant.

Climate.—Salubrious.

Management.—This will be undertaken by Mr. Barwick.

Brokers.—Getem and Fleecem, Stock Exchange.

Commercial Agents.—Jones and Coal, Mincing Lane.

"How's that, umpire? And now, boys, for the ready; I have a couple of hundred in the bank, and if you can scrape together fifty apiece we can start right now."

Six weeks after they gathered once again in the shady bar overlooking the broad river, which gleamed in the after-glow of sunset. Bell took the pink cablegram he had just received from his inner pocket.

"Well, sports! here is the message just to hand from the broker johnnies in London: 'ISSUE FIVE TIMES OVERSUBSCRIBED. SHARES AT PREMIUM. CABLING YOU HUNDRED THOUSAND THROUGH BANK. HEARTY CONGRATS.'"

"Glory be! it's a financial genius of the first water ye've become, John K.," gasped O'Hagan; "but I reckon we had better book passages by the *Hypatia* for to-morrow. I have a presentiment that the climate of Santander will be uncomfortably warm for us later on."

And thus was launched the Rubber Fortunes Syndicate.

THE ROWTON HOUSES.

SERIOUS ALLEGATIONS OF MISMANAGEMENT.

We have received the following letter from a correspondent, who vouches for its statements:—

A friend of mine has, through sheer ill-luck, fallen upon evil times. He came to London a week or so ago on a chance of bettering his condition, and put up at the Newington Butts Rowton House. A notice is posted in each sleeping cubicle warning inmates to bolt their doors on the inside. This my friend did, and placed his trousers containing a half-sovereign and about two shillingworth of small change on a chair by the bedside. He awoke in the night, thinking he heard a slight noise, and found the door unbolted and his trousers gone. He proceeded downstairs to the office, and was told there that they would investigate in the morning. When morning came he was informed that his trousers had been found in an empty cubicle by an attendant, but the money and other articles were gone. The officials disclaim liability. "Lodgers should bolt their doors," they said, and it was in vain my friend pointed out that he had done so, but to no purpose. A night or two after another lodger lost his coat and vest, containing a Scotch note and other money. His clothes, minus the money, were also recovered in the same fashion. Complaints to the Rowton House authorities are vain, and the police say they are powerless to aid. There is evidently something wrong with the management of Rowton Houses, for this kind of thing is not uncommon at other establishments.

These are very serious allegations. It would not be surprising to be told that in a place like the Rowton Houses the difference between *meum* and *tuum* is imperfectly appreciated. The lodger had bolted his door, and apparently the only way in which it could be opened from the outside was by a master key. We invite the attention of the Rowton House authorities to the matter.

FINDING LOST KEYS.

A WORD WITH THE THRONE INSURANCE SOCIETY.

A correspondent sends us the following complaint:—

On the 10th December last I found a bunch of keys with a label No. 40025 attached, issued by the Throne Insurance Society, Ltd., 20, High Holborn, W.C., offering 5s. reward on the keys being handed in at the nearest Police Station. This I did the same night at the Police Station, St. Paul's Road, Seacombe. On the 13th of the same month I received a letter of thanks from the owner of the keys, and urging me to apply for the reward. On the 14th I wrote to the Company, claiming the reward and furnishing all particulars. Mr. Williams, the owner, also wrote the Company about the same date advising them of the loss and recovery of his keys. Receiving no answer I wrote again on the 30th December, but receiving no answer to this I wrote to the Police of the district, but they were unable to assist me in any way. On the 9th January I again wrote to the Company and registered the letter as evidence of delivery. To this I received a reply dated 11th January saying the matter was receiving immediate attention, and asking the name of the Police Station the keys were handed in. This I gave and pointed out that I had previously furnished the information. But they denied this fact in letter dated 17th January.

As I had not heard anything more from the Company, I wrote a reminder on the 5th inst., and told them I thought I had waited a reasonable time, and unless they forwarded the reward the following week I should place the matter in other hands. Up to the present they have not condescended to reply, and I have thought it right to place the facts before you, as I had JOHN BULL in mind when I advised the Company I should place the matter in other hands.

This is not the first complaint we have received as to dilatory action in paying the promised 5s. for recovery of keys.

PEARKS' LTD.—It is the intention of the Directors to pay on July 1st next the twelve months' dividend on the Preference shares.

Mr. Sievier, in the special "Imperial Number" of the *Winning Post*, devoted to an exhaustive review of the sporting side of the life of the late King, gives much interesting information regarding His Majesty. The Turf section of the biography is fittingly wound up with a lament at the great loss it has sustained and the expression of the hope that in the fulness of time it "may yet once more acclaim the royal livery, and cheer the son as it cheered his ever-beloved father."

THEN AND NOW.

HOW THE DEMISE OF THE CROWN WAS RECEIVED LAST CENTURY.

At home and abroad all men speak well of the late King and have confidence in his successor. It was not always so with the reigning House. Within the memory of men still living a dead King and his successor—George IV. and William IV.—were referred to in the language of contumely and derision. "Nobody thinks any more of the late King," wrote Greville in his famous diary after the death of George IV., "unless it be to abuse him and to rake up all his abuses and misdeeds."

King George had not been dead three days before everybody discovered that he was no loss and King William a great gain. Certainly nobody was ever less regretted than the late King, and the breath was hardly out of his body before the Press burst forth in full cry against him, and raked up all of his vices, follies, and misdeeds, which were glaring enough.

As for William IV.:—

Altogether he seems a kind-hearted, well-meaning, not stupid, burlesque, bustling old fellow, and if he doesn't go mad may make a very decent king . . . People are hoping that he will keep his wits at least until the new Parliament meets. . . . It is said that the bastards are dissatisfied that more is not done for them, but he cannot do much for them at once, and he must have time.

And again:—

Nature must have been merry when she made this Prince. I never saw a countenance which that line in Dryden's "M'Flecknoe" would so well describe, "And lambent dullness plays around his face."

Upon the death of William IV., Greville wrote:—

The most remarkable foible of the late King was his passion for speechifying. He had considerable facility in expressing himself, but what he said was generally useless or improper. He never received the homage of a Bishop without giving him a lecture, and the custom he introduced of giving toasts and making speeches at all his dinners was more suitable to a tavern than a palace. He was totally deficient in dignity or refinement, and neither his elevation to the Throne, nor his association with people of the most distinguished manners, could give him any tincture of the one or the other.

And Greville was Clerk of the Council to three Sovereigns!

DAMN!

(For using the single word "damn," the Hon. Francis Lascelles was at Ivybridge Sessions, Devon, fined £1 and costs. The defendant had suffered many injuries through the collision of his bicycle with a carriage.)

In the county known as Devon,
Folks are very pious there;
P'raps because it rhymes with heaven,
They will never stand a swear.
In a recent chance collision
Cyclist's leg was badly bruised,
Aural lobe sustained excision,
Collar-bone was quite contused!
From the wreckage just emerging,
Stunned and stupid with the crash,
Anger in his brain was surging,
And he muttered—more than *dash*!
And the Bench, sublimely scorning
Mangled limbs and bleeding nob,
Said in tones of solemn warning,
"Proved! the fine is twenty bob!"
If that scion of the Peerage
Had been versed in Billingsgate,
Or in lingo of the steerage,
Sadder still had been his fate!
Language lengthy or tremendous,
Used whene'er a wheel may skid,
Banking balance quite stupendous
Means—or *quod* in lieu of *quid*!

J. HUDSON.

THE JOHN BULL COAL CLUB.

A SCHEME BY WHICH READERS OF "JOHN BULL" WILL BE ENABLED TO OBTAIN THE BEST QUALITY OF FRESH-WROUGHT COAL, DIRECT FROM THE COLLIERY, IN ANY QUANTITY, ALL THE YEAR ROUND, AT ONE UNIFORM WHOLESALE PRICE.

As announced in recent issues, we have decided to establish a JOHN BULL COAL CLUB, which will confer very substantial benefits upon our readers, and we now have pleasure in giving full particulars of the scheme.

MEMBERSHIP.

To become a member of the Club it will be necessary only to send one year's postal subscription (6s. 6d.) to JOHN BULL in advance, or a newsagent's certificate (for which a Form will be supplied) stating that a copy has been ordered every week for twelve months.

BENEFITS.

1. Uniform quality of coal. The coals will be *only the best obtainable* for their various uses, and will be tested regularly by an expert analyst.
2. The coals will be fresh-wrought and delivered direct from colliery to consumer.
3. A saving of 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. per ton (perhaps more) on similar qualities as supplied by the leading merchants.
4. A *fixed price throughout the year* for each quality of coal supplied.

There will be no necessity to take in stocks of coal at "Lowest Summer Prices," involving considerable outlay of capital—coal loses much of its value by stocking, and also runs to small coal, which is often wasted.

AREA OF DELIVERY.

Free deliveries will be made anywhere in London. Truck loads varying from 6½ to 10 tons will also be sent to any station in England and Wales. Members can arrange their own cartage into cellars, or the Club will undertake delivery. Prices to country stations will be based on the Club's London figures, with increase or decrease according to the railway charge for carriage to the particular station. If the member arranges delivery, a reduction in price will be made on the basis of cost of cartage in London district. If delivery is required in London in half sacks (*i.e.*, one cwt. bags), a charge of 1s. per ton extra on fixed price will be made.

ORDERING OF COAL.

As it is calculated the Club will be dealing with large quantities of coal, involving heavy clerical work, it is requested that members will give a few days' notice for delivery. This may not be necessary, but in order to avoid disappointment and to facilitate administration of the Club, will be advisable.

QUALITIES OF COAL.

The Club proposes to supply the following brands:—
Best Selected Silkstones (for use in dining-room, drawing-room and bedroom); Best Derby Brights (for general use, but more suitable for dining-rooms, etc.; than for kitchen); Best House Nuts (can be used for general purposes, and same remarks apply to this coal as to Derby Brights); Best Kitchen Coal (for use in closed ranges where a fairly large coal is favoured, size 3 ins. to 8 ins.); Best Kitchen Nuts (for use in closed ranges, size about 2 ins. to 3 ins.).

The Club will have the services of a Manager who has had a long and thorough experience with all classes of coal, and also of an expert analyst who has had vast experience in analysing coals for theoretical and practical purposes, thus insuring absolute satisfaction to members.

ANALYSIS.

The only true way to purchase coal is on analysis—*i.e.*, the knowledge of the component parts of the coal supplied. Any complaints will at once be submitted to the Club's Analyst.

CLUB PRICES.

These will be published as soon as the "Lowest Summer Prices" are officially declared on the London Coal Exchange. The Club will commence operations on July 1st, 1910. As a rough indication of prices see following table:—

Principal Merchants' Current Prices. "J.B." Coal Club.			
	Per ton.		Per ton.
Best Selected Silkstone ...	26/-		23/-
Best Derby Brights ...	25/-		22/-
Best House Nuts ...	24/-		21/-
Best Kitchen Coal ...	23/-		20/-
Best Kitchen Nuts ...	22/-		19/-

It must be remembered that the leading merchants' prices are subject to fluctuations in the market and to considerable advances in the winter months, whereas the Club's prices *are fixed*. There may not be a very considerable difference between the prices of the leading merchants and the Club's prices in summer—possibly only 1s. 6d. to 2s. per ton—but the difference naturally widens out in the winter months (October to March).

A Central office of the Coal Club will shortly be opened. In the meantime, all communications should be addressed to the Secretary, John Bull Coal Club, 67, Long Acre, London, W.C.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

I desire to be enrolled as a member of the "John Bull Coal Club." I enclose postal order value 6s. 6d., being one year's postal subscription to your Journal to be sent to me weekly, post free (or certificate of my Newsagent, from whom I have ordered a copy every week for twelve months). I estimate my requirements of coal to be _____ tons annually. I have usually purchased (fill in quality usually ordered)

Coal.

SIGNED _____

ADDRESS _____

DATE _____

Members desiring to subscribe through their newsagents, should apply to the Secretary of the Club for a form of certificate.

SMILAX'S SUBURBAN GARDEN.

By W. H. ADSETT.

In the springtime the villa dweller's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of gardening. We all admire the steady-going suburbanite, with his jubilant pride in his well-trimmed lawn and the modest parterres gay with brilliant bloom. The man, however, badly afflicted with "gardenmania" is to be avoided. Such a one is Smilax. As soon as the first glimpse of spring is seen Smilax is a changed man. From the staid, City denizen, absorbed in the commercial page of the daily paper, and a silent traveller in a "first smoker" he becomes a loquacious enthusiast.

Smilax was bubbling over with enthusiasm the other Monday morning, fresh from a Sunday's study of sixty nurserymen's catalogues (each claiming to have the best novelties), and six gardening papers with their indefinite and contradictory instructions. The morning's journey was spent in hearing him eloquently dilate on the latest introductions of sweet-peas, dahlias, begonias and roses.

In the evening Smilax came to the house for some neighbourly advice. He had spent a day making out a list of his requirements from the sixty catalogues; the exact cost for seeds, plants and fertilisers would be £1.450. Several weeks elapsed in revising this list. Ultimately, when Smilax made his selection, he found that the proper season for sowing the expensive seed purchased had gone by. Another disappointment also damped his ardour. Two of the unemployed from a philanthropic farm colony were engaged to dig the garden, on piece-work terms. According to the orthodox British workman style, they came in the morning and carefully examined the ground before returning home to fetch their tools. Half a day had been spent in this operation. The remainder of the day was passed in attending an unemployed demonstration at Tower Hill. Eventually the job was completed. Smilax surveyed with pride the fresh-looking soil. When the men had made a "bee-line" for the nearest public-house, their employer was dismayed to find that only a small portion had been deeply trenched, and the sub-soil scattered over the remainder of the plot.

Smilax came up gleefully shortly afterwards, when he discovered that he could obtain an oil-stove for heating his greenhouse, warranted to do the work of a boiler at a cost of a fraction of a farthing a day. He pictured with delight the prospects of his villa being gay with flowers and foliage plants all the year, with the additional advantage of appearing daily in the City with an orchid button-hole. Never was there a happier man than at the time he escorted me to his garden to demonstrate the results of his wonderful heating apparatus. On approaching the garden a strong smell of burning oil impregnated the air, as though the full strength of the motor-bus service had been parading on the garden plot. "What is wrong? The glass is as black as pitch," exclaimed Smilax. So it was; the marvellous oil-stove had struck work, and had belched forth a cloud of suffocating fumes.

The only time Smilax was completely perturbed was when a battalion of cats made a raid on his beds of geraniums, lobelia, and calceolarias. He was then in a boisterous rage; he visited the Patent Office to discover the latest invention for the wholesale destruction of feline frustrators.

Smilax has since broken out in a fresh place. Recently he has been descanting on the beauties of the American carnations; he is now anxious to emulate Mr. T. W. Lawson, the multi-millionaire, in having a carnation named after himself. Smilax is also advocating what he terms "patriotic floriculture." According to his theory, the *entente cordiale* between Britain and America would be strengthened by every British citizen planting a "Roosevelt" carnation in his front garden.

The latest trouble is the brand new rockery, which was to rival the famous one at Kew. Some mistake was made by Smilax or the nurseryman. The plants grew to such weedy heights that the artistic arrangement of the stonework was completely obscured.

The last time I met my gardening friend he was dilating on his first batch of new potatoes. Reckoning the seed, labour and fertilisers, the potatoes cost him about £5 a pound. Smilax concludes that it will be cheaper to charter a steamer and import them direct from Teneriffe in future.

JOHN BULL'S NATURAL HISTORY.

COMPILED BY "RETLAW."

THE ROOZPHELT.

According to the recognised system of zoological classification, this interesting animal belongs to the order of *Primates* (which on no account must be confused with Church dignitaries), the class *Mammalia*, and the great sub-kingdom *Vertebrata*. The Roozphelt is a native of North America, where it first engaged the attention of observers about the year 1858. It habitually walks erect upon its hind legs, and uses its forelimbs very intelligently. Its disposition is generally considered to be somewhat fierce, although it is known to bestow great care and affection upon its young, which, as a rule, are numerous. Its body is stout and strongly constructed, and is capable of great exertion. In appearance the Roozphelt is by no means handsome, nor can it be called ugly. It has a little hair on its face immediately below its nostrils; and when it is pleased it draws back its lips and exposes two rows of gleaming teeth, which look capable of a severe bite. Its eyes are bright and penetrating, and there is no suggestion of timidity in their glance. It is of active habits, and is known to hunt for the pleasure of killing, even when abundantly supplied with food. Although very little bigger than an average man, so great is the strength and cunning of the Roozphelt that, assisted by one of its cubs, it has been known to stalk and bring down animals as big as the elephant and hippopotamus. It has marked likes and dislikes, which it is capable of expressing in characteristic and unmistakable fashion. It is thought that it would pine in captivity; but experiments have proved that, if lodged in a White House, it is able for a time to make itself content.

THE OBRYAN.

This is a ferocious, hairy animal, indigenous to Ireland. It is also occasionally seen in Italy, and of late has been observed in the vicinity of London, where its sharp, fierce cries have caused consternation and annoyance. Some years ago a specimen was kept for a while by Mr. Balfour in his Irish Zoo, but it never became reconciled to confinement. Subsequently, having come to be looked upon as a harmless creature, it was restored to liberty. To-day, however, certain Irish authorities are beginning to question whether it is as harmless as it looks. It hunts in small but noisy packs, but rarely succeeds in pulling down its quarry. In Ireland it subsists largely upon cork.

THE LOIJORY.

This small creature, believed by some naturalists to be related to the fox tribe, is a native of Wales. It is compactly built and astonishingly agile. Its head is adorned with a short, dark mane, and a growth of hair on its upper lip. It is a beast of prey, and of such a fearless disposition that it will attack any animal, however big, that excites its enmity. It hunts chiefly in the backwoods, whilst no hen-roost is secure against its depredations. Its activity is surprising, especially to its natural enemies, of which it has a great many. When cornered, it usually springs over the heads of its attackers, and, turning, bites them suddenly and viciously in the rear. Notwithstanding its ferocious disposition, it is a favourite pet amongst certain classes of people, notably the Nonconformists, for whom it seems capable of great affection. But, strange to say, the sight of a peer invariably excites its rage.

THE PANCURSED.

Zoologists have not yet come to an agreement as to which Order, Class, and Genus this strange creature belongs. It was only discovered of recent years, and so far the consensus of expert opinion seems inclined to assign it to the cat tribe. There appear to be good grounds for this theory; for, like the majority of the feline race, it exhibits a powerful dislike for the male human. It is essentially a fighting animal, but can purr prettily on occasion. It is slenderly formed, and is quaintly marked with green and purple stripes. In captivity it invariably refuses food, and is kept alive only by the forcible administration of nourishment. It is by no means shy or timid, and when it knows itself to be watched, its antics are amusing; but it is subject to fits of temper which at times render it a dangerous plaything. It loves to roam about in companies of many hundreds, although solitary specimens may occasionally be met with. One of its most entertaining characteristics is its habit of forming into processions, and migrating, with laughable solemnity, from one place to another. Specimens are found in America, France, and Finland; but it is in England that it seems most prolific. Perhaps the most remarkable feature of this creature is the fact that it is of doubtful sex. It is to be hoped that careful research will solve this knotty point.

—THE—
MIDLAND FURNISHING Co. L^d.
 15, 17, 19, 21 & 23, SOUTHAMPTON ROW,
 HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

Six doors from the Holborn Station (G.N. P.& B. Rly.) and 1 minute from Museum Station, Central London Railway, 3 minutes from Oxford Street.

BARGAINS. We are greatly reducing the prices of many Suites, etc., in order to clear and so make room for some extensive structural alterations. This extends for 21 days only. A special Bargain and Second-hand list is issued—post free upon request.

CATALOGUES are free; they will give you some idea of the immensity of our stock and of the low prices we charge.

GRADUAL PAYMENTS. Our system is quite simple. After you have selected you arrange to pay in one, two, or three years, and we charge no interest whatsoever, neither do we make any extra charges. We require no deposit.

COUNTRY customers' fares to town are paid on all purchases of £30 worth and upwards. Their goods are packed and railed free. Carpets and Linos are planned and laid free. Five per cent. discount is allowed for Cash.



8 piece—Oak Suite. Consisting of 2 Elbow Chairs and 6 Small Chairs, covered in any colour rexine,

£4.4.0

Solid Oak Bureau, with fall down front,

£2.5.0

KEW GARDENS.

THE CURATOR REPLIES TO OUR RECENT COMMENTS, AND WE PUBLISH SOME FURTHER CRITICISMS.

Apropos our recent comments upon the printed refusal by the staff at Kew to answer a request to name certain flowers and leaves sent by post for identification, Mr. W. Watson, the Curator, writes asserting that our observations are unfair to him. He admits it is part of his duty to name plants and answer enquiries, and on an average he deals with fifty packages of specimens every week. But the officials "are not permitted to expend time in naming common native or garden plants"—otherwise they would be overwhelmed with parcels from ignorant gardeners and beginners. In the case to which we referred, he considered the request was unreasonable, and feels sure that an acquaintance with the facts will enable us "to see that the charge of neglect of duty and rank discourtesy is scarcely warranted."

On the other hand, a former employee at Kew Gardens writes that although they are too busy to answer such enquiries, it is a fact that these officials, and two of the foremen in particular, regularly answer enquiries made by readers of the gardening papers as to the names of plants. This he is certain is not done without their being paid for it. Of course, in some cases it may not take many minutes, but the fact that it is done by them, while written enquiries made by strangers are treated with such scant courtesy, deserves to be shown up. In the interests of the public and to make the national collections there more useful and interesting, an enquiry bureau should be established. At present, anyone seeking information probably asks the first gardener he comes to, and is by him referred to the Director's or Curator's offices. If the enquirer is a person of consequence, well and good, but if he is unknown he is told that they have no time to spare. Another point worth noting is that visitors are not allowed by the regulations to draw, paint or take photos in the plant houses during the summer months. During the rest of the year they may do so till mid-day, but if they wish to photograph an individual plant they are not allowed to have the adjacent plants removed unless with the permission of the foreman, which in the case of one of the foremen is invariably refused—yet this foreman takes photos the whole year round in the plant houses, and on occasions has whole batches of plants moved to enable him to get a good picture. Indeed, he has been known to spend the greater part of his time for several days together doing nothing else but taking photographs of plants for his private collection, which he boasts is the finest in the country. Many of these photos he sends to the gardening press, and he has said on several occasions that he never gets less than 10s. 6d. each for them if published. Why should this man be allowed to have a monopoly? The Curator, who draws a salary of £400 a year, is, our correspondent states, also writer of the garden column of the *Field* and also of one of the columns of the *Countryside*. Some of the other officials write more or less regularly to the press, and yet the gardeners and sub-foremen, who do the practical work and are paid the magnificent sums of 21s. and 27s. per week, respectively, are forbidden to write or send photos of anything connected with Kew to the gardening press.

A "GUARANTEED LOAN."

A WORD WITH SIR CHARLES EUAN-SMITH, K.C.B.

We have received several letters from readers with respect to a circular sent out by "Duncan Forbes and Co.," who describe themselves as Stock and Share Dealers, of 49, London Wall, Bank. This circular invites persons to subscribe £6,000 for the purpose of defraying the legal and other outlays in presenting a claim against the Ottoman Government for £1,200,000 due for indemnities payable to Russian subjects resident in Turkey for losses sustained during the war of 1879. Messrs. Duncan Forbes and Co. say that, in the opinion of leading experts, the claim is enforceable, and they promise to repay each £100 subscribed with a bonus of £100. But what is the value of the guarantee of Duncan Forbes and Company?

A good deal is made in the circular of the fact that Col. Sir Chas. Euan-Smith, K.C.B., C.S.I., and Messrs. J. J. Edwards and Co., solicitors, have consented to act as trustees for the subscribers. It is a little surprising to find Sir Chas. Euan-Smith acting in this capacity.

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?—SEE PAGE 11 OF COVER

THE COMING BUSINESS GOVERNMENT.

A CONTEMPORARY AND A FLATTERING IMITATOR

Our rosy contemporary, the *Globe*, has been having a go at our Business Government idea. There are many funny features about the criticism, but the funniest of all consists of making it the subject of its series of tracts for voters, under the general heading of "Radical-Socialism." It is numbered "Point 74," and headed, "Why we do not want a Business Government."

We are told that "Politics is half diplomacy and half diplomatic 'bluff'"—from which we gather that, in the opinion of the writer, a business man may be capable of neither diplomacy nor "bluff." It is not a very exalted view of the politician, but, if it be correct, we venture to say that the average business man could give points to any professional politician. We are then informed that "people can run soap works or ham factories, but any attempt to use the same methods in 'running' a country would lead to inevitable war." We do not quite gather what the methods are, but we do venture to assert that either Mr. W. H. Lever or Sir Thomas Lipton would be as good a President of the Board of Trade as even the brilliant journalist who recently presided over it. Our contemporary, however, has fallen into the popular error of thinking that a business man must necessarily be a dealer in soaps or hams or pickles. The idea of a Business Government is based upon the principle of putting a specially qualified man at the head of each Department, and, consequently, our contemporary's observation that "the methods required to sell the greatest number of tins of sardines or tablets of soap are not necessarily those that would put a Government Department into working order" falls extremely flat. Under a Business Government, the head of the Board of Trade would be a man with special knowledge of commerce; the Chancellor of the Exchequer would be an experienced financier or banker; the Secretary for War would be an experienced military administrator; the First Lord of the Admiralty would be an experienced naval officer; whilst the Postmaster-General would not depend for his appointment at all upon Party services, but would be a man of proved ability for organisation and administration.

Our contemporary's suggestion that a Business Chancellor of the Exchequer would probably sell a "bear" in Home Rails preparatory to placing a burden upon the Railway Companies, appears to us to indicate that the writer is in extremis for an argument. "If business men saw a profit in a war," says the *Globe*, "that war would be waged, whether the country benefited or not." Our contemporary evidently thinks that all wars are prompted by purely philanthropic motives! The author of the article had better join the John Bull League before writing anything further about a Business Government!

Then we have the "Business League," whose headquarters appear to be in the neighbourhood of Birmingham, and which, if not copied bodily from the John Bull League, is only another illustration of the fact that great minds frequently think alike. We read amongst the objects of the League:—

- (1) To promote, as far as possible, the formation of a business Government with business men, and particularly for the positions of Chancellor of the Exchequer and President of the Board of Trade.
- (2) The appointment of a Minister of Commerce who would be independent of Government changes.
- (3) The entire rearrangement of our diplomatic and consular service in order to secure for British commercial interests the active support of our Government representatives in foreign countries.

Whilst in an address by the President, delivered a fortnight ago, we are told that in government we want "just a little bit more business and a little less politics." We are further assured that it is "absurd and ridiculous that in a business nation like this there should be no Minister of Commerce;" whilst, as regards the Consular service, it ought to be a purely commercial matter of well-trained agents, who could, when necessary, make reports to the Minister of Commerce. As, however, we do not claim any monopoly in the idea of a commonsense Business Government for a commonsense Business People, we welcome the new League and wish it every success.

Men who Count To-day.

I.—Mr. EUGEN SANDOW.

The Man who makes us Healthy by Natural Means.

Mr. Sandow's real importance is as a man with ideas, and ideals, and a system for the realisation of those ideals. What he says is in effect: "I am strong—granted. But the strong man is made, not born. It is a matter of system. Follow my system, and you shall be strong too. And not only strong, but healthy—with lungs that will defy the tubercular bacillus, and a stomach that will digest any reasonable provender. Any man by physical culture may build himself a robust physique." That is the message. Not so much because he has preached it, as because he has compelled the world to listen to it, the rise of Mr. Sandow has to be accounted one of the great facts of our time.

He was a weakling, with a passionate desire to be strong. The ordinary gymnastics of the gymnasium did little for him. At eighteen he was still delicate. At that age, however, he began to study anatomy, and the knowledge thus acquired enabled him to construct his own scheme of training the body and giving to each separate muscle the greatest development of which it was capable.

Even at the time when he was performing his most astonishing feats, he was always preaching the gospel of physical culture as the great means of increasing the physical efficiency of the race. For it is quite a mistake to suppose that the establishment of his famous Institute of Curative Physical Culture was an afterthought. The idea was always there, though circumstances naturally determined the actual form of its realisation. Time after time, at the height of his renown, Mr. Sandow abandoned the music-halls for the lecture platform. Time after time the people demonstrated that they were more anxious to see him perform than to hear him lecture. Financially, the lecture tours were failures. Large sums of money were lost in them. But Mr. Sandow stuck to his idea. He was no more discouraged by his failure than Disraeli was discouraged by the reception accorded to his maiden speech in the Commons; but he bided his time, and awaited his opportunity. And that opportunity came after the conclusion of his American journey. He was one of the best-known men in the English-speaking world. His name was, as it still is, as familiar to the man in the street as that of, say, Mr. Chamberlain. And he had saved money. Consequently he was in a position to begin his new career as an evangelist of physical culture.

First he started the famous schools. There were three of them in London, and, I believe, five in the provinces. The original intention was to open such schools in all the large towns in the United Kingdom; but two objections to this course were discovered. In the first place, it was difficult to control so many establishments; in the second place, it was not possible through the schools to address a sufficiently large audience. The dream was not of physical culture for the few, but of physical culture for all. Consequently the policy was changed. The administration was centralised, and the present plan of physical culture by personal instruction and by correspondence was adopted. Those who want exact information about the treatment must write to Mr. Eugen Sandow for the prospectus. Here I have only space roughly to note certain points. Broadly speaking, if you take a course by corre-

spondence, what happens is this: You fill up a form, stating your weight, your age, your measurements, and your ailments (if any), and in return you receive a form prescribing certain exercises. At the end of a fortnight you report how the exercises have affected you, and receive a second batch of instructions. And so forth. The intention of the course is not to make you a weight-lifter or a prize-fighter. It is to make you fit and healthy within your limitations, so that you may make your earthly pilgrimage as buoyantly as the miller of the River Dee, enjoying your own life, and assisting your neighbours to enjoy theirs. It is a brilliant idea, and it answers brilliantly. This very afternoon I was at the Sandow Institute, and was shown the records of a number of cases pulled at random from the pigeon-holes in which they are docketed, though naturally without violating confidences by permitting the inspection of the names. I seemed to be listening to a swelling chorus of invalids singing anthems of praise for their restoration to vigorous health. Such a one had no more headaches, such another had no more of the old trouble with the liver, a third had got rid of his insomnia, and a fourth of his "tired feeling in the mornings." And all this without the prescription of a single dose of medicine—simply and solely by the judicious application of the Sandow system to the exigencies of the individual case.

The facts are there for all the world to see. All the doctors who know anything about it readily express approval. Sandow's system, I am convinced, may rank with the discoveries of Lister and Simpson in respect of the benefits conferred by it upon mankind. If I have said more of the system than of its inventor, that is necessitated by the circumstances of the case. It does not need to be proved that the inventor must himself be a man of marked individuality. "Sandow," I was told by one of those who know him best, "is one of the most strikingly original men I have ever known. He owes nothing to books, but everything to his own independent observations and reflections. He doesn't act like other people, and he doesn't think like other people; but comes to the problems with a fresh mind, and works them out for himself. His head is as strong for purposes of organisation as his arm for lifting weights. The complicated yet simple organisation by means of which he can, in a moment, lay his finger on the complete record of every case which has passed through his hands is entirely of his own devising. The very way he has chosen to make it known shows the care, thought and skill he brings to bear on every detail in connection with his treatment and his Institute. For the sufferer in search of health he has prepared not a general book that might take a great deal of reading through before finding the information on the inquirer's own case, but a series of twenty-four books dealing with all the complaints in which his method has been proved to be the most successful, so that if one calls at his institute, 32, St. James' Street, London, S.W., or writes, mentioning one's own special health defect, one receives, without cost, a little treatise of just that conciseness that the busy man or woman desires, showing how Mr. Sandow applies the treatment in the particular illness or condition.

The Titles of the Books on Health, mentioned in the above columns, are:—

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|---|
| 1. Indigestion and Dyspepsia. | 10. Rheumatism and Gout. | 17. Circulatory Disorders. |
| 2. Constipation and its Cure. | 11. Anæmia: Its Cause and Cure. | 18. Skin Disorders. |
| 3. Liver Troubles. | 12. Kidney Disorders: Functional and Chronic. | 19. Physical Development for Men. |
| 4. Nervous Disorders in Men. | 13. Lack of Vigour. | 20. Everyday Health. |
| 5. Nervous Disorders in Women. | 14. Physical Deformities in Men. | 21. Boys' and Girls' Health and Ailments. |
| 6. Obesity in Men. | 15. Physical Deformities in Women. | 22. Figure Culture for Women. |
| 7. Obesity in Women. | 16. Functional Defects in Speech. | 23. Insomnia. |
| 8. Heart Affections. | | 24. Neurasthenia. |
| 9. Lung and Chest Complaints. | | |

To secure a copy of any particular book it is only necessary to write naming it, giving name and address, age and occupation, and mentioning "John Bull," to Eugen Sandow, 32, St. James' Street, London, S.W.

HUMAN DOCUMENTS.—XCI

Mr. Francis C. Adcock, of 10, Herne Hill Mansions, Herne Hill, vouches for the facts contained in the following appeal. It seems to be a very sad and a very deserving case :—

May I appeal to you on behalf of a most deserving and pitiable case? I allude to an electrical engineer, 28 years of age, a first-class mechanic, and bearing an excellent character. Some 14 or 15 months ago he was thrown out of employment owing to the bankruptcy of his employers. He worked for the Nailpit Horseshoe Company for a time, until the business, being sold to Americans, he was not wanted. For weeks he tramped London from 5 a. m. till sundown in search of work, his wife, who had a young baby, also going out to work and selling a little fish, when they could obtain the money to procure it.

In desperate need the man applied to the Council and was sent to a labour settlement, where he stayed the full limit (still without procuring employment), being sent back to London in accordance with the regulations, bearing an excellent character for industry and good behaviour. This happened a month ago. During this time he has again tramped all the hours of daylight and without food, in his fruitless search for something to do.

They have parted with home and everything else which could be turned into money, and have come to the last shilling. They are willing to emigrate, but are informed by the societies that a guarantee of £20 is necessary, or if about £6 could be subscribed he would open a fish-stall or round. He is even willing to go to Wales and work in a pit if the necessary fares could be procured.

I shall be pleased to supply any other particulars of this most deserving case. The man's name is Bertram Ford, and he lives at 40, Bengeworth Road, Loughborough Junction. His wife is now fearful lest he should not return one night from his disheartening search; he is in such a state of despondency over this long spell of bad luck.

In conclusion, let me say I realize your great goodness of heart in publishing your "Human Document" appeals, week by week, and appreciate the task you must have in selecting the most needy individual, but I do hope you will be able to give space to the case about which I am earnestly seeking your interest, in an early issue of your valuable paper. I feel confident that none are more deserving, and that no charity would be better repaid.

HUMAN DOCUMENT LXXIX.

THE CASE OF RYAN AND HIS CHILDREN.

In our issue of May 14th, and under this heading, we published a letter from Mr. H. Moore, of 58, Bravington Road, Queen's Park, pleading on behalf of one John Ryan. Mr. Moore told a moving story of how Ryan has been an inmate of the Acton Lane Infirmary, where he is still lying dangerously ill, and of his wife, who had just given birth to her sixth child, and, owing to resuming work over soon for the purpose of finding food for her children, was taken ill and died. Mr. Moore's appeal was for the children, and our readers were invited to assist in finding them a home. We have now received a letter from Mr. Moore, in which he tells us that so far as the placing of the children is concerned he was misled, and that homes had in fact been found for them. In these circumstances he sends us some monies which had been sent to him for them in answer to our appeal, in order that we may return the amounts to those who sent them. We have also received a very courteous letter from Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, Chairman of the Willesden Board of Guardians, in which he tells us that he made personal enquiries, and finds that whilst the facts in relation to Ryan and his wife are correct, those relating to the children are not so. The four boys have been boarded out at the Brentford Roman Catholic School and the girl at Hammersmith Catholic School, the infant being admitted to Acton Lane Infirmary. Mr. Chamberlain also assures us that the man has every attention.

The Director of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children has also been good enough to give us the result of his independent enquiries.

In these circumstances our readers will perceive that further help for the children is not required. We should add that we have several postal orders sent to us for Ryan by anonymous donors, which we are holding. If these readers will be good enough to send us their addresses we will either return the monies to them or, should they prefer it, hand them to the writer of some other Human Document which may have appeared in our columns and attracted their sympathy. What about the "Document" above?

THE JOHN BULL LEAGUE.

President—HORATIO BOTTOMLEY, Esq., M.P.

Objects: To stamp out Cant and Self-Righteousness; to abolish Cranks and Killjoys; to create a robust and self-reliant Public Opinion; and to promote a Common Sense, Business Government for a Common Sense, Business People.

KING EDWARD VII. AND THE LEAGUE.

Needless to say every member of the League is mourning the death of His late Majesty, and all meetings have consequently had to be postponed. It would seem an appropriate moment to refer to the President's remarks at our Inaugural Meeting at the Albert Hall on Trafalgar Day last, when dealing with the attitude of the League towards the Throne. He said :—"There is one thing from which the League will never flinch, and that will be its unswerving and undiluted loyalty to the Throne of King Edward. I say honestly that I look upon His Majesty the King as our most valuable national asset—our best statesman, and, by a long way, our finest ambassador."

Nor is it too much to assume that the objects for which the League was formed met with the approval of His late Majesty. When, owing to the enormous demand for tickets for the Inaugural Meeting, we ventured to apply to the King for the use of his box, His Majesty readily and gracefully acceded to our request. As we said at the time, it was this sort of kindly act that so endeared the King to the hearts of his subjects. In a letter from Balmoral, dated October 9th, 1909, His late Majesty's Private Secretary wrote :—

"Lord Knollys has had the honour of submitting Mr. Ward's letter to the King, and in reply, is commanded to inform him that His Majesty is happy to grant the use of his box at the Royal Albert Hall, on the occasion of the meeting of the John Bull League on Thursday, the 21st instant."

It would indeed have been surprising had a League formed to create a robust Public Opinion, a Self-reliant Manhood, and sound Common-Sense, failed to meet with the approval of so broad-minded a Monarch and man as His Majesty. The John Bull League desires to take this opportunity of placing on record its grateful appreciation of his kindly interest, and of its profound respect for his memory.

THE LIVERPOOL MEETING.

All arrangements are now complete for our meeting in St. George's Hall to-morrow (Friday) night. One hour before the commencement of the proceedings will be beguiled by a recital on the organ by Mr. W. W. Killip, who has arranged a most attractive programme. Mr. George Platt will sing the John Bull League song, which has become so popular at all our meetings. In response to a demand for readers of this journal that they should have special consideration shown to them in the matter of seats, we have arranged that every holder of this week's issue shall, on presentation of the copy, be admitted by an early door at 7.15 p.m. Judging by the number of applications for membership, which we are daily receiving from the Liverpool district, considerable interest is being aroused in the League, which, it is safe to predict, will be increased after the meeting. We have also received a very large demand for tickets for reserved seats, but with the exception of those issued to existing members, the whole of the large hall will be free to the public.

During the past few weeks the membership of the League has increased by leaps and bounds, every post bringing in a considerable number of applications. For the benefit of new readers we repeat that there is no entrance fee or compulsory subscription, and all that readers desiring to join the League need do is to sign and forward to the General Secretary, or the nearest Local Secretary, the subjoined coupon. Any person, of either sex, is eligible for membership, irrespective of party, race or creed. League Badges, price 1s., and copies of the League song, price 6d., may be obtained of the Local Secretaries or the General Secretary, at the Central Offices, 67, Long Acre, London, W.C.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP.

The Secretary, 67, Long Acre, London, W.C.

Please enrol me as a Member of the
JOHN BULL LEAGUE.

Name

Address

28/5/10.

OUR PRIVATE THEATRE.

LITTLE PLAYS WITH TOPICAL PLOTS.

BY RICHARD MORTON.

WHEN WOMAN RULES: OR, THE FREEDOM OF THE FUTURE.

SCENE I.—*The Home of Mr. and Mrs. Newstyle (EDITH and JOHN). It is breakfast-time, and JOHN, sitting at the table, is rather impatiently awaiting his wife.*

JOHN: A quarter to nine, and Edith not down yet. She never can get up in the morning, and no wonder, considering the late hours she keeps.

(Enter EDITH, in a great hurry.)

EDITH: Hallo, my dear, here I am. What do you say? Late? You should call me louder, and not let me drop off to sleep again. Give me a cup of tea, quick.

JOHN: Here you are, dear, but it has been standing so long that I am afraid it is rather cold.

EDITH: So's the bacon. Always the way in this house. Where's the newspaper? (Props it against the tea-pot, and reads the divorce news while gulping down a hasty meal.)

JOHN (after an interval): Is there any news, dear?

EDITH (munching): Nothing to interest you. But I must be off. We've got a new typist, an idiotic young fellow, but rather good-looking, and he's an awful duffer if I don't look after him. It's a shame the way these men are cutting in and taking the bread out of our mouths, working for such small salaries, too.

JOHN: Edith, dear, talking about money, could you let me have a pound or two?

EDITH (irritably): What, more money? What have you done with the sovereign I gave you on Saturday?

JOHN (crying): I haven't wasted it, but it is all gone. You wouldn't believe how housekeeping runs away with the money. But if you think I don't manage and contrive and do all I can—!

EDITH: Oh, don't snivel and make a fuss. I didn't mean to be unkind. Here's five shillings, and you must make do with that. My little man must not be so extravagant. I must run now. Good-bye. (Exit.)

JOHN: Gone—and she never kissed me! Oh, Edith, Edith, why ever did you take me from a happy home to treat me like this?

(JOHN finishes his breakfast in silence, then rings bell. Enter PARLOURMAN.)

JOHN: Clear away the things and bring me my hat and coat. I am going shopping, and if there is anything wanting for the house, write it down. While I am out, you can help Septimus with the bedrooms.

PARLOURMAN: Yes, sir; but if you please, sir, will you take a month's notice, please?

JOHN: Why, Adolphus, whatever is the matter?

PARLOURMAN: It's the mistress, who abused me last night for talking to the policewoman at the gate. She's going to marry me when she's a sergeant, but mistress said no followers was allowed.

JOHN: Don't be absurd, Adolphus. I'll speak to your mistress and put matters right. There, there, don't worry any more. (Dear me! What a nuisance these servants are!) Give me my cane, and brush my coat behind. And oh, remind me I have to attend a fathers' meeting this afternoon. Is my hat on straight? (Exit.)

* * * * *

SCENE II.—*The Same, very much later. The hour is 1.30 a.m., and JOHN, in dressing-gown, is sitting up.*

JOHN: One more night of loneliness and suspense. Hour by hour the clock strikes, and yet Edith comes not home. Oh, I am a miserable man. Can she be false?

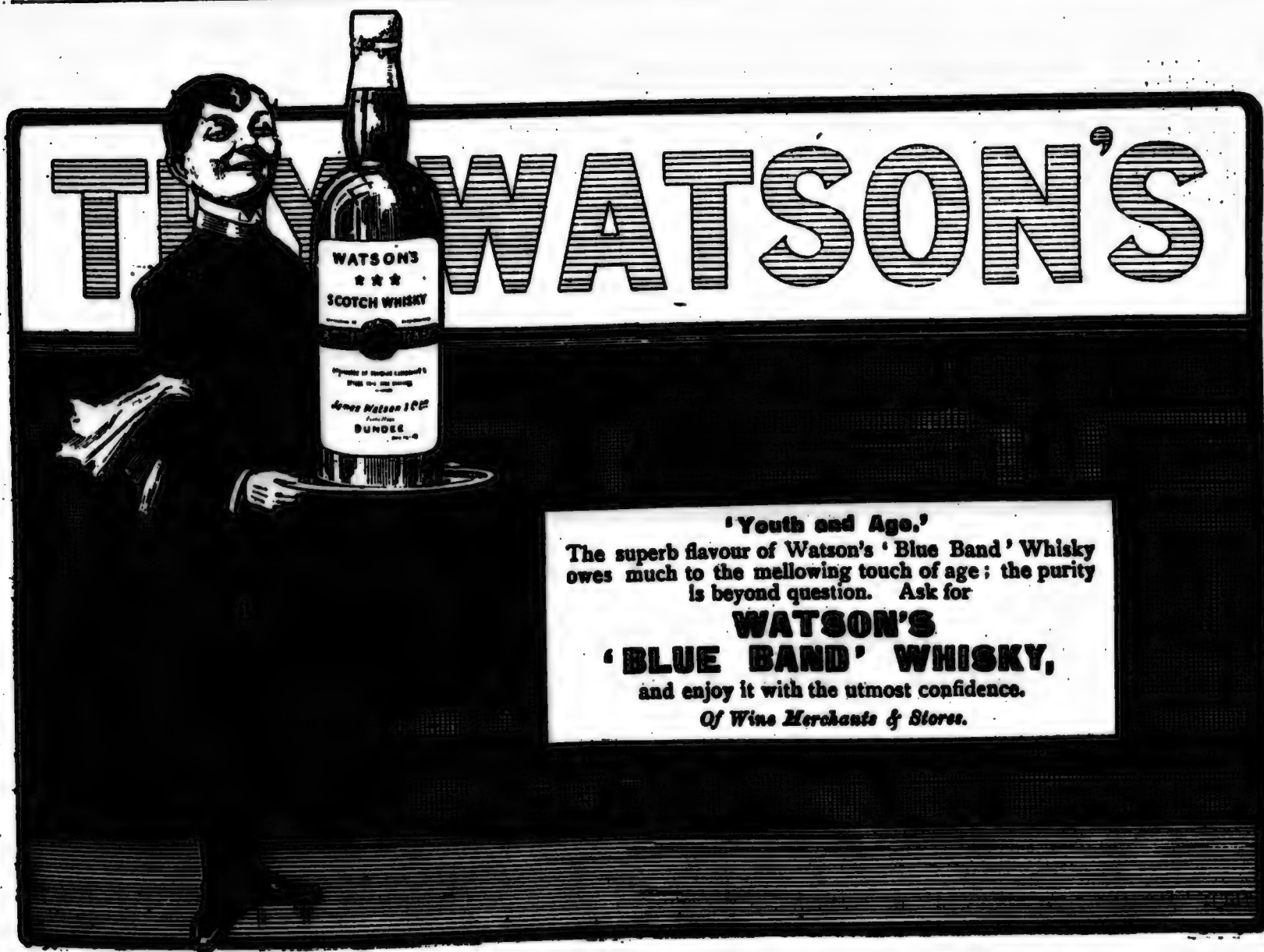
(There is the sound of a latchkey in the front door, stealthy footsteps. Enter EDITH, rather flushed.)

EDITH: What, not in bed yet?

JOHN: Where have you been? Club, indeed! Nice sort of club to keep married women out all hours of the night. And you have been drinking more tea than is good for you. I'd be ashamed!

EDITH: Nag, nag, nag! It's enough to drive a woman crazy. You are a wicked, suspicious man, John! I'm going to bed.

JOHN: Brute! Go to bed. It's time you did. Go! And I'll go home to father in the morning!



WATSON'S

'YOUTH and Age.'

The superb flavour of Watson's 'Blue Band' Whisky owes much to the mellowing touch of age; the purity is beyond question. Ask for

WATSON'S

'BLUE BAND' WHISKY,

and enjoy it with the utmost confidence.

Of Wine Merchants & Stores.

OPEN LETTERS, POSTCARDS AND TELEGRAMS.

To His Imperial Majesty the Kaiser, Berlin.

SIR,—I read that on visiting Westminster Hall on the day of your arrival, you knelt down by the coffin of our dead King and "engaged for a few moments in silent prayer," after which you sympathetically took the hand of King George V., who was kneeling beside you. It was as it should be. May I venture to hope that that touch of humanity, that community of sympathy in kinship at the side of the nation's dead—shall be the sign and pledge of peace between our peoples; peace on their lips, peace in their thoughts, peace in their hearts? Between us we can ensure the peace of the world. If only you should have returned home with such a thought in your mind! Dare I hope it? Eagerly shall I watch.

JOHN BULL.

To Earl Grey.

DEAR EARL,—When bidding farewell to the Canadian Parliament the other day, you prophesied that before the present century is out, Canada will have become the heart, soul, and rudder of the Empire. This, no doubt, was very gratifying news for your Colonial audience; but where does poor old England come in? What will she have become by the close of the century? I take it there cannot be two hearts and rudders to one Empire, and presume, therefore, that England will have to be content with the minor office of liver and lee-scutters. But, seriously, don't you think it is possible to carry fulsome eulogy to an extreme? Canada already has a sufficiently—perhaps a more than sufficiently—exalted opinion of herself, and is beginning to assume airs. Next time you serve out jam to one of Britain's children, don't lay it on quite so thick.

JOHN BULL.

To Dr. Chapman, Monsall Hospital, Manchester.

DEAR SIR,—I am not quite sure from the report of the inquest on little Robert Hindley, who was found hanging from his cot in the hospital, what precisely is your official or unofficial capacity there, but as you did not appear, and as your conduct was brought into question, let me put before you the facts as they were sworn in evidence. The child was seventeen months old, and was in the hospital as a scarlet fever patient. He had been placed in a sub-ward for isolation. There was all the more reason, therefore, why he should have been kept under observation. The night nurse last saw the little chap between 1.15 a.m. and 1.30 a.m., when she was relieved by another nurse. This nurse, now in charge of thirty-four children with scarlet fever, left the infant for ten minutes at 1.30 to get the children's breakfast ready. Returning, she saw him again, and then left him once more for nearly an hour. "I was so busy," she told the coroner. Re-entering the ward at 2.25 a.m., she was horrified to find that the infant had got between the bars at the end of the cot, and was hanging by his shirt band with his feet six inches from the floor. She touched him to find that he was cold and dead. He had been strangled, and she was "too upset" even to attempt to lift him into bed. So he was left hanging.

On the appearance of the night sister you were sent for. You did not arrive until six hours afterwards, and as the City Coroner said he was "inclined to think you should have gone immediately as a matter of public duty," I can only assume that you were attached to the hospital in some official capacity, and that there was an obligation upon you to lose no time in personally satisfying yourself of all the facts. There is, as you know, such a thing as life being saved by artificial respiration even after a person has been hanging for some time and is apparently dead. Nothing seems to have been done by anybody.

And now I come to another matter. The mother states that when she was eventually summoned by telegram to the hospital she saw you; that you informed her the child had died from heart failure, and that you asked permission to make a post-mortem examination.

Why didn't you attend the inquest? You must have known that one was to be held. As revealed, the present control and management of the hospital is painfully inadequate and haphazard, and I look to the people of Manchester to insist that matters shall be put right without delay.

JOHN BULL.

To the Chief Constable, Glasgow.

DEAR C.C.,—Sorry to trouble you once again, but who the Dickens is responsible for that outrageous prosecution of the blind woman who used to sit reading her Braille near the Royal Exchange? Every policeman in Glasgow has had his blind eye on her for years; and yet you, or somebody else, has suddenly pounced down upon her and had the law of her, on a charge of begging. I suppose it was thought safe to assume that the poor have no friends; but the instigator of this charge, whoever he was, should know that the Lord does sometimes raise up defenders for the desolate and oppressed, and lo, here were big-hearted and hard-headed Glasgow business men ready with prompt legal assistance in aid of this lone creature with the sightless eyes, reading, reading, always reading her Braille that she and her children might have bread.

I don't believe she was begging, and as the magistrates didn't believe it either, she was discharged. It seems to me a petty, unconscionable and spiteful business on the part of somebody, and I wish him joy of the end he has achieved—that of obtaining the prohibition of her return to the place where she has sat in all weathers for so long. I am wide awake enough, sir, to perceive that this was his real aim. Can you inform me whether the police have now made arrangements to drive the woman from pillar to post all round the city until she and her children hunger and go on the rates, or she commits an offence qualifying her for seven days in gaol?

JOHN BULL.

To the Directors, White Star Line.

GENTLEMEN,—I have received a letter, signed by several hundreds, on behalf of the eleven hundred third-class passengers, who left Liverpool on the *Laurentic* on April 30th last, for Quebec—and I commend its contents to your earnest attention. They were ordered to be on board by 11.30 a.m., and although many of them had come long distances, and were hungry and weary, no meal was provided till 5.30 p.m. No arrangements had been made about their berths, and they had "to wait in a stuffy room for an hour and a half, while each man was told off to a berth—the whole work being done by one man." Now, upon booking their passages, these emigrants had been told by the agents, as emigrants always are told, that they would be placed in two, four and six-berth cabins. You will, therefore, understand their surprise and disgust when they discovered that "shelving" had been erected in the different holds, and that sleeping accommodation had been provided in "open berths," each holding from 70 to 200 men. One of these "berths" was next to the propellers! The food, during a portion of the voyage, was "of the coarsest description."

In these circumstances, you will not be surprised to learn that the third-class passengers resolved to form a committee to present their case, through me, to your consideration. Their letter is couched in language of moderation. "We are prepared," they say, "to rough it when necessary, but we strongly object to line the pockets of the 'White Star' shareholders at the cost of comfort and decency." And then, with great generosity, they desire to add that "the Chief Steward and his subordinates, from whom they experienced great kindness, are to be entirely exonerated from blame." Thus the responsibility would appear to be yours, and yours alone. Pray realise it. Heaven knows that the outlook for these emigrants is dark enough in any case. It is Hell upon Earth. Don't add to it a preliminary taste of Hell upon Sea.

JOHN BULL.

To Captain Freddy Guest, ex-M.P.

DEAR CAPTAIN,—You really have had bad luck. After fighting many hard bye-elections and being just "pipped," you at last secured a victory, only to be turned out on petition. The possession of great wealth is evidently not an unmixed blessing, as the agents of poor men don't run many risks. Better luck next time.

JOHN BULL.

M. de Lesseps.

Congratulations on splendid achievement. You beat Blieriot's record, and without fuss and self-advertisement, Something in heredity after all.

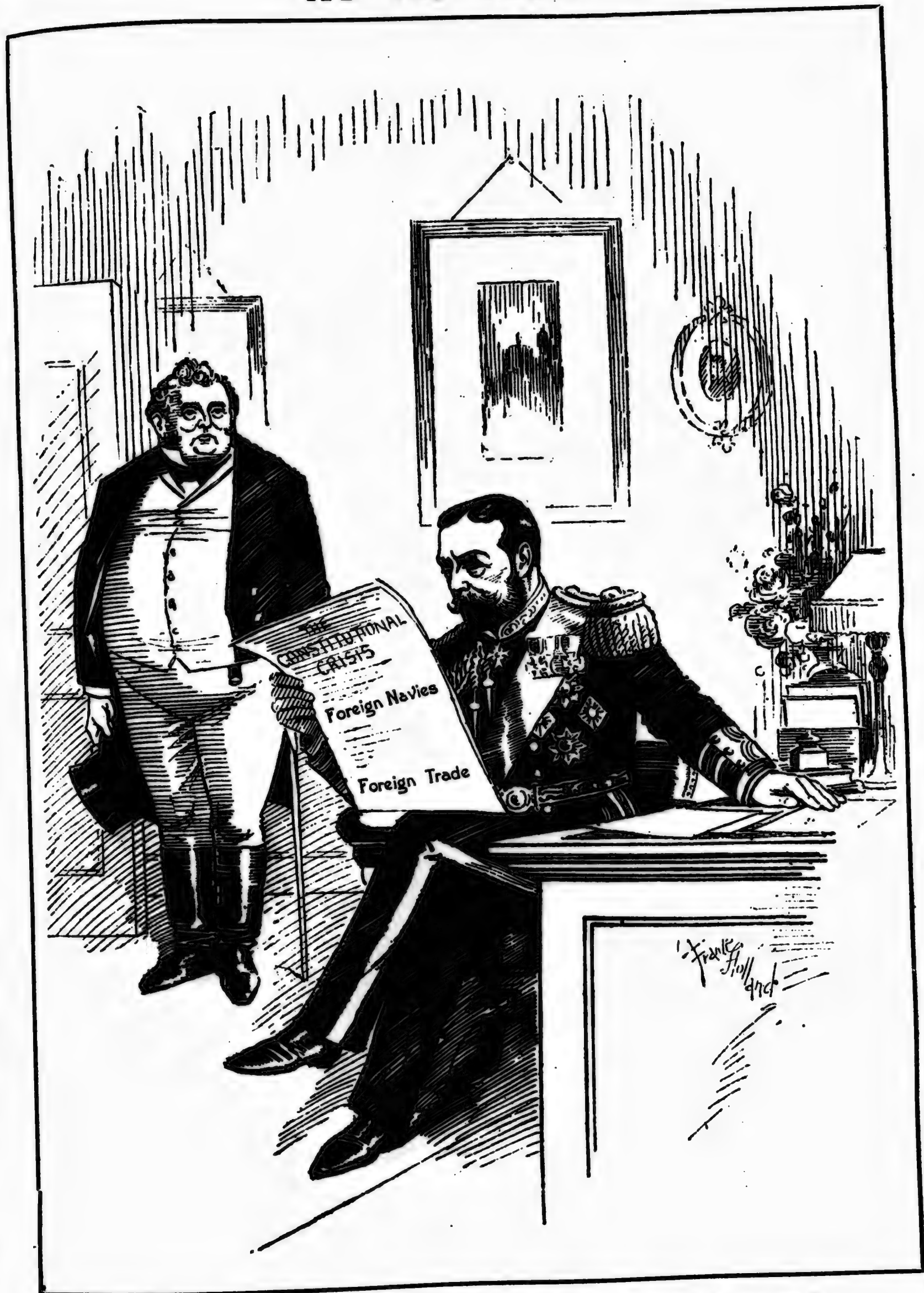
BULL.

Frank Wootton, Jockey.

It is an ill wind. . . . Suspension of racing mitigated rigours of your own suspension, and you may yet hope to top the list. But must be more careful.

BULL.

AT HIS POST.



JOHN BULL: "It's a hard task, Sir; but you may rely on me."

JOHN BULL IN THE CITY.

By VERAX.

THE POSITION AFTER KING EDWARD'S FUNERAL—ACTIVE AND BROADENING MARKETS PROBABLE—NOT OVERSHADOWED BY ANY PARTICULAR BOOM—SATISFACTORY MONETARY OUTLOOK.

There are indications that the anticipation of greater activity in the stock markets after King Edward's funeral will be fulfilled, and also that instead of one particular boom overshadowing the rest of the stock departments, business will be spread over several promising markets, of which, indeed, just now there are a fair number. Some of my confrères even advocate a resumption of speculation in *American Rails* on this side. In view of the fact that the rank and file of our operators have done exceedingly well in other sections, and have thus been spared another bad experience in the reactionary *Yankee market*, I must say that this development would not be at all desirable. There is, however, a prospect of values being put higher again, and that would have a favourable influence upon German business, which is ever greatly affected by the tendency in Wall Street. I am afraid that the *Yankee market* will have yet to pass through some *mauvais quarts d'heure* when President Taft resumes his attack upon the Railroads and Trusts, and later on in the year when the Supreme Court takes up the indictment of the *Standard Oil Trust* and of the *Tobacco Trust* again; and it is not therefore desirable to enter into heavy commitments in Wall Street's mercurial stocks, apart, perhaps, from *Copper Mining shares*, in which we shall evidently witness a sharp upward movement. On the other hand, there is every prospect of London giving an optimistic lead to the Paris Bourse, which seems to be ready to follow suit. That will probably take the shape of campaigns in *Rubber shares* (but not of the former all-absorbing character), in *Kaffirs* and *Rhodesians*, in *Copper Mines*, notably *Rio Tinto*, in Foreign Government stocks, such as *Argentines*, *Brazilians*, and the stocks of the defaulting *Spanish-American Republics*, which have already commenced to move, in *Mexican securities*, not to forget *Home Rails*, *Canadian and Mexican Rails* and *Mexican Gold Mines*; also *Oil producing shares*, in which business is likely to assume very large dimensions, considering that some twenty new prospectuses are ready for immediate issue. There should be ample funds available for speculation in this country and in France. In fact, at the present high Paris exchange of 25—30 the Bank of France, which has very large stocks of gold, will probably allow some big amounts to come to London, while Egypt will also be able to spare a million or two. The collection of taxes is going on here very steadily. It is estimated that nearly ten millions have now been collected, and that nearly twenty millions have still to come in, when, of course, the Bank of England will have the control of the money market. There is, however, no reason why all should not work smoothly if the Chancellor of the Exchequer at the same time releases some of the borrowed money. Looking at the whole position, it appears to me exceedingly favourable to an active and advancing movement in Stock Exchange securities, from Consols to Mines, and from Rubber to Oil shares.

KAFFIRS AND RHODESIANS TO BRACE UP—WEST AFRICANS RALLY—COPPER MINES IN FAVOUR.

As already stated, I look for an early rise in the *Kaffir Circus*, the position on the Rand being most satisfactory. The very favourable statements made by Mr. Geo. Nathan, who presided over last week's *Cinderella Deep* meeting, have drawn renewed attention to the Eastern portion of the Rand. He stated the total ore contents of the *Cinderella Deep* at 50,000,000 tons, of an average value of 27s. 6d. per ton, and foreshadowed that the working costs would be below 15s. The total profits would thus be 30 millions sterling on the enlarged capital of £1,500,000. *Harmony Props* should soon advance on the present price of 9s. 6d., as it is certain now that the engineer who has been examining the properties will make a very favourable report. *Consolidated Goldfields* and *Rand Mines* are improving, and *Randfontein Central* have hardened to nearly 3. Amongst *Rhodesians*, *Gold Schists* have rallied to 2, *Shamva Mines* to 5. *Amalgamated Props.* are steady at 9s. 9d. *Tanks* are up at 6 11-16, and *Chartered* have improved to 12. Good news from the *Globe* and *Phoenix* put the price up to 2 9-16. The rumours of the outbreak of yellow fever at Sekondi are evidently greatly exaggerated, and *West African Mines* are recovering. The best group is the *Prestea*, and it is understood that the results obtained in the shaft on the boundary between the *Prestea Block "A"* and the *Prestea*

Mines are so rich that the amalgamation between the two is a certainty. *Gwalia Prop.* have improved to 4s. 6d. on cables stating the lode 6 ft. wide and assaying 1 to 2 oz of gold. There is every indication of a coming rise in *Copper*. Were it not for the ill-feeling between the *Amalgamated Copper Co.* and the Guggenheims, the price of *Copper shares* would already have advanced very materially. But it is now stated that a big rise is certain. Already *Amalgamated* are up at 73½, *Rio Tinto* at 73. *Mexican Gold Mines* have given rise to a considerable business, and *Mexican Mines of El Oro* are changing hands at 8½, *El Oro* at 27s. 6d. *Carmen Mines of El Oro* have advanced to 1 5-16, and look like going better.

THE OCEANA COMPANY AND THE WEST AFRICAN TRUST.

Since the Oceana Consolidated Company passed under its present able control, extraordinary energy has been infused into the enterprise, the result being shown in the marked improvement in the quotation for *Oceanas*, which have, in fact, practically doubled their price. At the present time the company is devoting a considerable amount of attention to West Africa, in which field it has acquired a number of important and promising assets, and the successful launching of the West African Trust a few weeks ago probably marks the initiation of a new era in its history. The West African Trust has a capital of £1,000,000 in £1 shares, of which 500,000 shares have been issued so far, 80,000 shares being given as purchase consideration for properties, and the balance issued entirely for cash. The Trust, therefore, starts operations with huge liquid resources. The Oceana Company has just taken the novel and interesting step of offering to its own shareholders a direct participation in the profits on this deal, and there can be no doubt that they will fully appreciate the advantages of the offer made to them. Briefly, the scheme is as follows:—Of the 420,000 £1 shares acquired by the Oceana Company, 200,000 have been set aside for the shareholders, who are now given the right of purchasing them direct from the company at par. As there are 2,000,000 Oceana shares, and only 200,000 Trust shares to be distributed, the directors can obviously only guarantee a minimum allotment of one Trust share for every ten *Oceanas* held, but if in any case shareholders neglect to apply, the balance remaining will, it is stated, be distributed among any other shareholders making application for larger amounts than they are strictly entitled to. The point is worth noting, for there are always a few careless people, who miss their opportunities, even when, as in the present case, there is an immediate profit to be made. In any case, seeing that the shares stand at a premium in the market, there can be no harm in applying for a few more shares than may be wanted on the chance of getting them, and re-selling at a profit. I should not be surprised if the Oceana Company's success with this big West African Trust were to lead to an early and substantial revival in the Jungle market.

A RICH NEW MEXICAN MINE.

In the coming activity in the Mining Markets, Mexico is bound to have a full share. The extensions of the railway system are leading to the discovery of rich mineral properties, and nowhere more so than in the district of Sonora, which is within thirty miles of the Southern Pacific Extension Railway, while just now a survey is being made for another line across the Sierra Madre, which will run almost up to the Waterloo property owned by the *El Mayo Mines of Mexico*. In a highly encouraging report, Mr. S. G. Burn, of Chihuahua, one of the best-known mining engineers in connection with Mexico, says of the *Waterloo Mine*, which he recently visited, that the argentiferous, or silver section, occupies the northern portion, the southern containing the gold and copper deposits in which the veins run into one large ore body. From extensive sampling the yield was 26.62 dol. Mex. per ton from the outcrop, while an output of 50 tons per day is expected from one vein alone, which, on a basis of extraction of 85 per cent., would yield a profit of £26 per day. Timber, water and labour are reported as plentiful. According to Mr. Burn's estimate, the expenditure of 40,000 dollars Mex. on development work would place the property in a position to produce 150 tons per day, or a profit of £220, say £66,000 per annum, in respect of a year of 300 days. According to Mr. Burn, the property of 500 acres selected ground contains an almost inexhaustible supply of mineral wealth, which has been found throughout the property. Active operations have been started in accordance with his suggestions. The authorised and issued capital of £80,000 in 10s. shares has recently been increased to £100,000 by the creation of

CINEMATOGRAPHS, ETC.—D. (Tyne).—(7) I do not advise a purchase. (2) I send you the address of a suitable firm. (3) They will advise you.

VARIOUS.—F. A. (Breda).—Canadian Pacifics may go still higher. Mexican Light and Power Preference are a good second-class holding. Rhodesians, Randfontein and Amalgamated Props. are a promising trio. **OXONIAN.**—(1) No reason for selling in a hurry. (2) Hold your Japanese Bonds. (3) I do not advise a further purchase. (4) You can do better in other Oil shares; consult my article. (5) The death of King Edward must work to the detriment of this company. (6) This drapery concern will also doubtless be affected thereby; so far the full Preference dividend has been paid, but nothing has been forthcoming on the Ordinary shares in recent years.

RUSSIAN PETROLEUM.—CARRIERS.—I have never been in favour of Russian Petroleum, but you must be aware that a reconstruction scheme is being hatched, which may cause a turn in the fortunes of the company. You must please yourself now in the matter.

TWO RUBBERS.—NAV MUNITA.—(1) Sell on any favourable opportunity. (2) Hold for any further improvement. (3) I cannot advise with regard to the standing of provincial brokers. **RIO RUBBER.**—I do not like either concern, but having made yourself liable for the calls, I do not see how you can avoid payment of the same now.

RUBBER SHARES.—MRS. E. D.—The fact that these 5s. shares stand at only 2s. shows the market opinion of them, and you should act accordingly. **BOAZ.**—(1) The special settlement has not yet taken place, and you will therefore have to await this. (2) Ditto. (3) Take a profit when you can get it. **ZETA.**—No option but to hold for the present, but watch your opportunity and get out without much loss. You got in at the top price, evidently. **CURIOS (London).**—I am not enamoured of either of the three shares mentioned, and you had better consult my article for hints. A better selection would be, say, Anglo-Malay, Sumatra Para, and Molesworths. **J. M.**—Under the circumstances there is no option but to hold for a recovery, although it may be a matter of patience. **AYWARA.**—(1) You can do better in established rubber companies, as per my article. (2) I cannot advise with regard to the standing of outside brokers. **J. P. (Bristol).**—I do not think much of these shares, and there is no quotation for them. Under the circumstances, you have no option but to hold.

HORTICULTURAL CONCERN.—TAPA.—I strongly advise you not to make the deposit in question, but to put the money into sound stocks and shares.

RUBBERS, MINES.—SARNIA.—If you are a holder of the Rubber shares, Nos. 1 to 3, you should take an early opportunity of selling the same. As regards Waihi (4), there is no particular hurry to sell.

OILS, ETC.—SHUSTAR.—The company has undoubtedly good prospects, but much depends upon political developments. Your other Rubber and Oil investments should come right in time.

£200 FOR INVESTMENT.—D. H. M.—If perfect safety is a desideratum, you cannot get more than about 3½ per cent. per annum—viz., in Colonial Government Bonds. Sound South African gold mines are certainly a good investment, but they cannot be regarded as absolutely "safe."

STANDARD MEXICO OIL.—H. H. S.—Having taken your shares up, you should not sell at a loss. You, however, seem to have got in at practically top price.

BROKERS, ETC.—GWILYM.—(1, 2, and 6) Deal only with members of the Stock Exchange. (3) Take a profit as soon as you can see one. (4 and 5) The firm, whose address I send you, will explain the whole subject to you.

SPECULATIVE INVESTMENTS.—R. D. (Shoreditch).—It is obvious that no one can guarantee profits within a given time, but City Deep and Amalgamated Props. are both good holdings of their kind, and should eventually improve substantially. Everything, however, depends upon general market conditions.

RUBBERS, RHODESIANS.—STANFORD HILL.—The best shares on your list are Amalgamated Props. (3) and Kamunings (6), both of which should go better again. No. 1 will improve when the Rhodesian market generally braces up, while you should watch your opportunity to get rid of Nos. 2 and 4. No. 5 will move with other Oil shares, while Humbers (7) had better be held for the present.

£1,500 FOR INVESTMENT.—A. A.—London County issues and Colonial Government Bonds are perfectly safe investments. Japanese Fours are also promising, but rank as second-class only.

BUILDING SOCIETY.—Z. Y. X.—Apply to the following for their terms, and then make your own selection:—Birkbeck Building Society, Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, W.C.; Temperance Building Society, Ludgate Hill, E.C.; and National Freehold Land and Building Society, 25, Moorgate Street, E.C.

PREMIUM BONDS.—COMMERCIAL TRAVELLER.—The firm, whose address I send at your request, will be able to advise you fully on this matter. **C. W.**—Same reply as to "Commercial Traveller." **R. W. D.**—What you require has been forwarded in your envelope.

OUTSIDE BROKERS.—E. A. (Honor Oak Park), TRUST SYSTEM (Hyde), L. H. B. MOTON.—These outside brokers' systems are all a delusion and a snare, and I strongly advise you to deal only with members of the Stock Exchange. Otherwise, it is a foregone conclusion that you will lose your money. **OPTIMIST (Wrexham).**—Both the concerns mentioned are of an extremely doubtful type, and you should have nothing to do with them. **A. D. R. A.**—These people are merely "bucket-shop" keepers, and you should not count your chickens before you actually receive your money, which, I think, is at least doubtful, unless they intend to throw a sprat in order to catch a mackerel. **R. S. G. (Dalketh).**—You are right to suppose that this person has decamped, only to open another "bucket-shop" under a different name. Why will you deal with such people? You are bound to lose your money. **PATRICIA X.**—You must be aware that as a matter of principle I do not recommend dealing with outside brokers, although that does not mean that you may not be fairly treated by the concern in question.

OUTSIDE BROKERS' CHARGES.—R. H.—When you deal with outside brokers you place yourself entirely at their mercy. This contrasts with the fact that complaints against the members of the Stock Exchange can be laid before the Committee for investigation, and if the charges are proved the member concerned can be called to account. I do not see how I can help you in the matter, and the lesson should be obvious to you.

OIL SHARES.—HIGHLANDER.—I have reason to believe that the concern was not as well subscribed as the promoters would have us believe, and I do not think much of it. The shares now stand at 1s. discount.

SEVEN OIL SHARES.—ACRIS.—Nos. 1 and 2 are the best on your list. The others should be disposed of as opportunity offers.

THREE RUBBERS.—W. C.—I do not care much for either of the three shares on your list, but in any case you cannot escape paying the calls.

INVESTMENTS.—RECTOR.—You have certainly spread your investments with a vengeance, but I am most doubtful, from the investment point of view, about Nos. 11, 16, 18, 20, 22, 27, 35, 37, 41, 43, and 45, which might be realised as opportunity offers, and reinvested in, say, Home Railway stocks, which are very promising just now.

BIOSCOPIC SHARES.—CROWPARK.—I should sell these shares, but as there is no regular market in the same, your only course is to advertise them. Of course, you will not part with the shares except against the cash.

SIX INVESTMENTS.—ST. THOMAS.—Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 5 are good investments of their kind, but I cannot tell you anything about Nos. 4 and 6, which are not quoted in London. The half-yearly dividends on Grand Trunk Guaranteed stock are payable in April and October.

OILS, RHODESIANS.—MERVUX.—Amongst the Oils, Anglo-Malokop (1) and General Oil and Finance. (3) As regards Rhodesians, Amalgamated Props. (4), Chartered (5), and Willoughby (6).

LOW-PRICED SHARES.—R. I. D.—It should be worth while holding for an improvement.

TWO MINES.—MARCUS.—I do not like either of these shares, and you can do better in, for instance, Harmony Props., Amalgamated Props., and Pretea Mines.

RUBBER AND TOBACCO.—H. F. W.—These shares have declined along with shares of a similar class, and there is no option but to hold the same for the present.

The Electric Cure is Popular.

As Pleasant as it is Effective.

It is grand to put on an electric battery while lying down resting, and feel its exhilarating influence in every nerve and muscle. There is no inconvenience attached to it in any way. One hour's daily application is sufficient. There is not the slightest shock or irritation, but a gentle, soothing warmth that goes direct to the nerve centres. That kind of electricity cures, and the cure it gives is permanent.

People will sometimes try an ordinary battery (made, no doubt, for commercial purposes), or a shocking-current, which irritates the nerves, and conclude that electricity is not suitable. It will not do any good in that form. The current must be given without shock—without irritation of any kind—and in this way the very weakest individual can be built up.

No person is too weak to use electricity. In such cases a longer building-up process is required. But the results are just as certain as water is to extinguish a fire when applied in sufficient quantities. If a proper battery is used, it is possible to supply a very strong current, free from all inconveniences.

How much more pleasant it is to be cured in this way, while resting, than to be pouring medicine into the poor, weakened stomach, until it is impossible to do without it. This drug habit grows on one, like the whisky habit; and no wonder, as alcohol forms the chief ingredient of many preparations. It is simply adding more poison to the weakened organs. Why not stop it?

Rheumatic sufferers, those crippled with Lumbago, Sciatica, or Gout; the victim of weakened stomach, kidney, liver, bowels, or bladder; the person with the shattered nervous system, and suffering from Paralysis, Epilepsy, Neurasthenia, Insomnia, Neuralgia, or Heart Trouble, should seek a restoration of health in the electric cure. Don't say—"It might not do me any good." It will do you good, if you resort to the right means. It will cure you.

There is a book for free distribution among all readers of "John Bull" which covers this subject fully. You should not be without it if you are not in possession of perfect health. It tells the cause of weakness and disease and how a cure can be gained. It describes the most successful remedy known—the "Ajax" Dry-Cell Body Battery. The history of many cases is sent with the book. It costs you nothing to get it.

It is not an exaggeration to say that electricity is doing more to-day for human ailments than any remedy known. The users of the "Ajax" Battery universally endorse it.

Mr. Geo. Cormack, Todholes, near Thurso, says:—"The battery has effected a cure in my case; in fact I am better in every way than I have been for many years. Had I known of it sooner it would have saved me much misery and suffering." Another report from Mr. Wm. Colton, Maids Moreton, Buckingham, runs thus:—"The Battery has improved my health greatly. I have no pain whatever now. I am perfectly satisfied." A case of nervous breakdown is reported by Mr. H. Gibbons, 56, Freehold Street, Fairfield, as follows:—"I am back again to health. I can strongly recommend the 'Ajax' Battery for anyone having a similar nervous break-down."

At the International Exhibition the "Ajax" Battery secured the Grand Prix with Gold Medal. The award was issued by the special medical section of the Exhibition, and endorses the system of applying electricity as well as the battery. This is the only electric treatment to secure such an honour. It is also supported by the *Science Siftings Certificate of Merit*.

Write at once to The British Electric Institute (Dept. 41), 25, Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C., and you will receive by return post the most valuable book ever published on the subject. It is sent in a plain sealed envelope. If near enough to call, please come and test the power of electricity free.—[Advt.]

ABOUT 4 PER CENT. INVESTMENT.—Instead of Consols, buy Western Australian 3½ per cent. Bonds, which are practically as safe, but yield over 3½ per cent. per annum. Bovvills are highly speculative, and not suited for your purpose.

SMALL MINES.—WEEKLY (Birkdale).—(1) These shares will improve when the Rhodesian market generally takes a fresh start forward. (2) These have also their attractions, but, of course, depend upon the course of the Kafir Circus. (3) Prestea Mines, on merits, should stand higher, but I cannot tell you what price they will reach.

MINAS CONTRACT COMPANY.—RECENT READER.—No accounts have been published since those for 3½ years ended December 31st, 1907, which showed a debit balance of £7,845. The directors ought certainly to be called to account for this omission, but nothing can be done unless a body of the shareholders act in concert. You should place yourself in communication with your fellow-shareholders with this object in view.

AUSTIN RUBBER.—ALFRED.—(1) You got too high into these Rubber shares. I do not recommend buying more to average, but you might, with some patience, get out without a loss. (2) Shares are quoted at a premium or discount until the special settlement has taken place.

BOULDER PERSEVERANCE.—C. L.—The news from the mine is favourable as regards grade of ore and reserves, but the West Australian market is very inactive. This is also the chief reason why Associated Gold Mines of Western Australia are weak.

BANK DEPOSIT AND INSURANCE.—CYMRO.—It is not possible to get what you want. This is a third-rate Bank, and you cannot get such high deposits without risk. (2) There is no company which will insure these, so as to leave a margin. **SEMPER.**—I cannot advise you to place your £1,000 in deposit with this concern, as you want absolute safety, and that you cannot obtain in this way. Your best plan is to invest in good securities, and if you wish me to make a list of same, I will do so.

AMALGAMATED OF RHODESIA AND RUBBER SHARES.—VINCENT.—(1) Amalgamated Properties of Rhodesia is a very promising company, and although they have fallen, they are now up again at 9s. 6d. You should hold for a rise, which is bound to come. (2) You got too high into these Rubber shares, but the company is by no means a bad one, and there should be a fair prospect of their rallying.

CONSOLS AND COPPER MINES.—STEEL WORKER.—(1) Matters have changed about Consols now, and with a cessation of the political fight in Parliament, Consols are rallying. Hold. (2) Do you mean high-class stocks. If so, you can get 3-4 per cent. in Australian Government Inscribed Stock, West Australian, Victorian, or South Australian, which are quite safe, and yield a far better return than Consols. (3) Whim Well Copper Mines do not seem to be well managed, and not in the right hands or else there might be hope of their reasserting themselves.

MURCHISON ASSOCIATED.—CANNY SCOT.—I really cannot answer all these questions. It seems to me that you want for a very low price something like Consols, and far be it for me to persuade you to buy some shares which, after all, are a mere gamble, as a high-class security. As regards the other shares, you must consider them in the light of an investment, and I do not think there is a market in these shares to buy, and sell, and speculate.

BANK AND OTHER INVESTMENTS.—SUDAN.—(1) You must just tell me what kind of investment you want. You can get 4½ per cent. in Japanese Government Stock, or in Home Rails. (2) Your stockbroker will be able to fix you on this point. (3) No, it is not safe. You cannot get such rates of interest, without running considerable risk. (4) This Bank is a degree safer, but the interest is lower. All the same it would be preferable to invest in sound securities.

CORPORATION STOCK.—ARCHYLE.—Liverpool Corporation Stock should be safe enough, but I cannot tell you whether you can get the same commission as in Glasgow. That is a local arrangement which you will have to make yourself. Why do you not write and ask?

INSURANCE REPLIES.

Insurance Enquiries should be addressed Insurance Editor, 67, Long Acre, W.C.

BRITISH LIFE OFFICE.—J. T. (South Shields).—(1) Your friend admits that he did not read the conditions on the certificate when taking it out. Now he has read them he finds them different to what he expected. If men will take out certificates without giving themselves the trouble to read them they ought not to complain when they find the conditions to be different to those they expected. (2) As to fighting the company, the wisdom of doing so must depend upon whether there is any clear violation of the terms of the contract, and as to that your friend should consult a solicitor.

GUARANTEE SOCIETY.—F. L.—If the facts are as you state, then you are entitled to the immediate return of the money. But we advise you to be slow in resorting to litigation.

THE PEARL ASSURANCE COMPANY.—G. L. (Holloway).—We cannot advise you in the matter. If the company will not give you the book we cannot compel them to do so.

THE ROYAL LONDON MUTUAL INSURANCE SOCIETY.—G. K. (Harringay).—We note what you say as to making an annual valuation and at the first declaring 32s. bonus. Also that you claim that the surrender values are scarcely surpassed by any office.

NATIONAL STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CORPORATION.—H. A. J. (Rhyll).—The reasons given by the British House and Land Assurance Company as leading them to consent to amalgamation seem sound, always assuming that their estimate of the National Standard Life Assurance Corporation is sound. We return your papers.

LIVERPOOL VICTORIA CORPORATION.—A. G. (Birmingham).—We should not recommend adding to your holding.

NEW ERA ASSURANCE CORPORATION.—A. S. (Luton).—We do not think your position has been worsened by the business being taken over by the National Standard Life Assurance Corporation.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION POLICY.—F. W. P. (Winchester).—The company to which you refer is one of high repute and we cannot think that it has done anything to which you can take just exception.

THE ESSEX AND SUFFOLK EQUITABLE INSURANCE COMPANY.—S. (Shipley).—Yes, certainly.

BRITISH UNION AND NATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY.—G. E. S. (Nottingham).—We think you could do better.

LONDON AND PROVINCIAL ASSURANCE COMPANY.—LAX (Ainwick).—(1) The company is within its right in refusing the transfer. (2) The surrender value, whether in the shape of a paid-up certificate or cash surrender, is explained upon the back of the certificate. You will notice that the certificate must have been transferred to the London and Provincial Assurance Company, Ltd., for a period of not less than two years before it can be dealt with, and then only on the next succeeding anniversary of the Provincial Homes Co.'s original certificate. We return the policy.

NATIONAL BENEFIT TRUST.—ARUN (Oulton).—The answer is in the affirmative. **THE BRITISH GENERAL INSURANCE COMPANY.**—A. G. A. (Merthyr-Tydfil).—Our advice to you is not to do so.

TWO INSURANCE COMPANIES.—L. H. C. (Dublin).—Of the two companies you name, the Royal would give you a slightly better return.

STANDING OF COMPANY.—CAREFUL (Cardiff).—The company to which you refer is one of high standing.

MUTUAL INVESTMENT AND ACCIDENT CO., LTD.—JONAS (Acton).—We have no information.

CHILD INSURANCE.—J. T. (Dublin).—The company is in the front rank. Other companies do the same kind of insurance, but not on quite such favourable terms.



Chairman

A Fine Tobacco

To the pipe smoker of taste the smoking of a really fine tobacco means much. It covers all that there is in smoking enjoyment—aroma, coolness, evenness of combustion and that subtle, but real and most elusive, yet most essential quality, termed flavour for lack of a better description.

These properties, rarely found in combination, are always found in **Chairman**, making it a really fine tobacco—always the same, always enjoyable.

Boardman's is the same tobacco milder, and **Recorder** the same but fuller flavoured.

Sold everywhere at 6d. per oz.

R. J. LEA, Ltd., Manchester.

AMONG THE LAWYERS.

NATIONAL CASH REGISTER TEST CASE.

THE JUDGE'S SUMMING-UP.

We give below Mr. Justice Grantham's summing-up in the case, *Crane v. The National Cash Register Company*. It was a test case, brought by a member of the Cash Users' Protective Association—formed as the result of our criticism of the Company's methods; and, as will be seen, resulted in a verdict, with damages, for the Plaintiff.

SUMMING UP.

Mr. JUSTICE GRANTHAM: Gentlemen of the Jury: The case as stated by the plaintiff and his witnesses is this: that he, the plaintiff, is a gentleman who has been all his life, practically, a licensed victualler, and is evidently a man of very considerable reputation in his business, which is a perfectly legitimate business—as legitimate as any other business in this country. He buys and sells houses wherever an opportunity occurs, or he thinks it is desirable to do so, but in buying and selling houses he, of course, has to be careful that when he sells them the person who purchases them will take what he has to sell at a valuation.

Of course, the valuation price could not be based on the price he had given if, after he had bought, the price was knocked down by the defendants themselves to less than half what he had given. Of course, under these circumstances, the plaintiff would be carrying on a ruinous business if he were to buy a house with a full knowledge that after he had bought these things and put them in the house, the person who had purchased the house from him would not pay anything like the price he had paid, because the value of the thing he had bought had depreciated almost to zero. That is the position of the plaintiff. He certainly was very candid; no one could be more honourable or honest than he was in the way he gave his evidence, because he said they are very useful things, but he said:—

"I bought them on the distinct promise and statement that they would not go down in price." Mr. Lush said the only statement was that they were more likely to go up than to go down, but Mr. Lush was not here, I think, when the evidence was given that those were not the terms on which he bought. The terms on which he bought were that they would not go down because they were the owners of the whole of the patents of these cash registers, and they held the monopoly. Therefore there was no question of going down. It was a question that they might go up because they held the monopoly. Now that is the position of the plaintiff, not contradicted; no evidence called for the defendants at all. What the defendants contend is that when they have educated their agents to the extent of giving them four weeks' training at least how to dispose of these things at fabulous prices—it is quite a novel idea and it may be a very good one—having taken the trouble to educate their agents with four weeks' instruction, at a regular school for agents where they are told what to say, and those agents are sent broadcast over the country and are told to tell people when they object to buy, saying: "I cannot buy this because the price is 50 guineas and they may be only 20 guineas to-morrow"—this is what the agents are instructed to say: "The price cannot go down because we have all the patents; we have the monopoly, and you are perfectly safe, and they are so well constructed that at the end of ten years there will only be a difference of five per cent. in the value." That is the evidence before you not contradicted, that the agents were instructed to say so, that the agents did say so, and that on the strength of those statements that plaintiff bought these registers, first one and then four more, making five altogether. Those are the facts in this case, and there is no answer to it at all. On that the defendants say: "We were perfectly at liberty that the very next day after he had taken five of them at 35 guineas apiece, pretty nearly two hundred pounds, after we had taken nearly two hundred pounds from this gentleman and two hundred pounds from a great many other people," because these agents were sent all over the country—thousands of pounds' worth they may have sold of these registers—"within a day from these agreements being signed they could knock the price down, bring out another Company, and reduce the value to 15 apiece." That is their case. That is Mr. Lush's contention as to what they could do. It may be the law, but it is not justice. It is said to be an American system which has been introduced here, and this agreement has evidently been drawn, as far as I can see—there being no answer to it at all now—for the purpose of carrying out that fraud.

The question for you, gentlemen, is, there being no answer to this so far as the evidence is concerned, what damages has the plaintiff suffered? He has had them now one and a half years; he paid for four of them 35 guineas each, very nearly £200; now, according to the evidence, they are not worth half. He has had the use of them, and, so far as he is concerned, they are still valuable. It is a question for you to say, what, under the circumstances, you think should be the damages.

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THE VERDICT.

In the High Court of Justice.

KING'S BENCH DIVISION.

(Before MR. JUSTICE DARLING, and a Special Jury.)

THE ELECTROPHOT CO.,

V.

THE STAR NEWSPAPER Co., Ltd.

In an action recently brought by the above Company against the "STAR" and the "MORNING LEADER" for Libels, in which (inter alia) the said newspapers suggested that the PORTRAIT ENLARGEMENTS advertised and supplied by the Electrophot Company were not fair value for the 1s. 3d. charged for the same the Jury found a

VERDICT for the ELECTROPHOT CO.,
WITH £1,500 DAMAGES.

It was proved to the satisfaction of the Special Jury, that not only are the goods supplied by the Company of fair value, but also that the recipients of the "Electrophot" Portrait Enlargements were so well satisfied that 27 Customers in every hundred voluntarily expressed satisfaction with the Enlargements made for them, and furthermore, some Voluntarily Attended Court and testified to these facts!

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BECAUSE we want to please you so much that you will show the sample to your friends.

BECAUSE, when they see it, your friends will be as pleased as you are.

BECAUSE your friends will order Enlargements when they learn how cheap they are.

BECAUSE through your and their recommendations our trade will increase.

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YOUR OWN PHOTO will be safely returned to you uninjured.

So confident are we of satisfying you that, in exchange for the enlargement, we will RETURN YOUR MONEY IF WE DO NOT PLEASE.

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Address

For safety, all P.O.'s should be made payable to the "Electrophot Co.," and crossed London County and Westminster Bank. J.B. 5

THE DRAMA OF TO-DAY.

By M. CLEMENT SCOTT.

"THE DAWN OF A TO-MORROW."

Undoubtedly Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett has conceived a fine idea for a drama in her story of "The Dawn of a To-morrow," but unfortunately she has not worked it out with the convincingness it is evidently meant to convey.

What more powerful intention could any playwright put forth than to prove that the disease from which so many in the fashionable circles suffer is in nine cases out of ten mere fancy, and that given an object in life and something beyond themselves and pleasure to think about, the illness vanishes into air, they become changed beings, they shake off all that is morbid, make up their minds to lighten the pockets of West-end physicians, and devote the superfluity of wealth that has really created the species of bilious hypochondria to the starving poor in the East of London?

Mrs. Hodgson Burnett starts to work right enough—her scenario is quite good—but all her energies have been concentrated in one figure in the play—that of Glad, the ragged little gutter wench, and no importance whatever given to other characters; consequently, such people as Sir Oliver Holt, his villainous nephew, and Dandy, the thief, instead of being prominent people in an absorbing theme, are but shadows that flit hither and thither on the scene and make no impression at all.

Glad dominates the entire situation, and brilliant at moments as Miss Gertrude Elliott is in the part of this hungry girl from the slums, who has learned through being in a hospital the truth of "ask and you shall receive," one cannot help feeling that Mrs. Burnett has just missed her purpose by not making Sir Oliver Holt more than a sort of *compere* in a Parisian revue, who stands at the corner of the stage and watches the show with only a word to say here and there. I wanted to see the complete change in Oliver through his visit to Apple-Blossom Court, in the East End.

I should have liked to see more of Dandy and not perhaps so much of Glad—splendid though the character of this ignorant girl, who blindly believes and has Faith, may be.

But even now with a bit of overhauling I think "The Dawn of a To-morrow" might be made into a success at the Garrick with a few more lines given here and there to the principals and Glad cut down to being a little less "always there."

"CHAINS."

There is so much that is excellent in Elizabeth Baker's four-act play "Chains"—the Repertory Theatre's latest production—that one almost feels inclined to criticise it as if it were one of our most famous dramatist's plays instead of the work of a practically unknown writer.

"Chains" is a remarkably clever "first effort." It is well constructed—Miss Baker moves her men on the dramatic chess-board as well as our most experienced authors—the wit is spontaneous, and much above the mediocre.

"Chains" may be accused of being commonplace and of dealing with commonplace people in a commonplace manner, but that is just where Miss Baker has scored.

Never once is the author startlingly dramatic, never once is she anything else but truthfully depicting the humdrum life of a city clerk and his entourage, yet never once is she boring.

The entire play is written around practically nothing—a not particularly exciting incident in a particularly dull life. And yet everybody is interested, and as the story is unfolded the house waxes more and more enthusiastic.

If I have any fault to find at all with "Chains," it is Miss Baker's utter contempt for "situations." The theatre to me has naturally always meant something theatrical, and I must confess this persistent "fidelity to life," which seems to be the Repertory Theatre's chief aim, does not appeal to me so strongly as that semi-artificial drama does as acted in the natural style for which the French theatre is famous. I must say I prefer "Madame Sans-Gene" with a Réjane, than Ibsen's "Doll's House" with a Janet Achurch—although I have but little doubt that some might consider the latter performance more intellectual. After all the theatre is all artifice, all make-believe. Take this away, and what remains of the theatre?

"La Tosca" was a bad, artificial play; Sarah Bernhardt an intensely artificial actress, yet both play and actress thrilled the world, which is more than this "natural" school of acting will ever do, and the more perfect they get in this "walk and talk" style the less interesting they will become, and the more dull.

"Chains" with all its faults is an exception. Miss Baker never bores, and she has been particularly happy in being able to obtain such an admirable company to interpret her work. There is no inaudible babbling this time—every word can be heard, and this puts one in a good humour from the start.

Miss Hilda Trevelyan, as the dutiful wife of a city clerk, errs possibly, if I may be permitted to say so, to the extent of over-acting. The same criticism applies also to Edmund Gwenn. Dennis Eadie gives an extremely accurate performance as the discontented clerk, and other characters are in the capable hands of Frederick Lloyd, Arthur Whitby, Donald Calthrop, Hubert Harben, Lewis Casson, Sybil Thorndike—an exceedingly capable actress—Florence Haydon, and Dorothy Minto, who has nothing to do but look prepossessing.

A Medical Officer



Debility, Nervous Exhaustion—

Certainly the absolute confidence of eminent doctors is evidence enough of the exceptional benefits imparted by Phosferine. Even doctors cannot do more to prove their confidence than by using Phosferine to remedy their own disorders. Could any proof be more definite, more convincing than the testimony of John Dodd, D.S.M., Medical Officer in the late South African War, who says: "After being shot through both lungs I was dangerously reduced, and I attribute it solely to Phosferine that I regained my usual health. I have proved the value of Phosferine in brain, nerve, and muscular exhaustion." This brilliant medical officer found Phosferine particularly serviceable for insufficiency of nerve force, and declares nothing was so suitable in combating fevers, chills, &c. No matter if other methods have failed to relieve, Phosferine provides another opportunity, for no one is too young or too old or too ailing to derive some benefit from Phosferine.

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John Dodd, D.S.M. (late of the Medical Staff, 5th Imperial Yeomanry, 1st Brigade, South Africa), Lady-smith House, Witton-le-Wear, writes:—"I have had considerable experience in the use of your invaluable remedy Phosferine, and it has proved particularly serviceable where there exists insufficiency of nerve force. This condition, often due to primary weakness, lays the system open to influenza, colds, neuralgia, rheumatism, indigestion, fevers, and in remedying this predisposition I have found nothing so suitable as your preparation. Phosferine invariably goes to the root of the mischief direct. The certainty of its action is moreover an estimable feature. In debility and kindred ailments, caused by a reduced system, it has unprecedented power, and in my own case I can bear evidence to its exceptional value, and am indeed greatly indebted to its wonderful restorative properties. During the late war in South Africa, I was shot through both lungs and pericardium and that reduced me most dangerously; after taking Phosferine for about two months it brought me back to my usual health. I attribute this solely to the use of Phosferine. I have advised Phosferine in several cases, and proved its value in brain, nerve, and muscular exhaustion."—March 11, 1910.

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Bottles, 1/12, 2/9, and 4/6. Sold by all Chemists, Stores, &c.
The 2/9 size contains nearly four times the 1/12 size

THE NEW BOSWELL.

EDITED BY W. M.

It was at the Mitre Tavern that I first fell under the fascination of Dr. Johnson. He was seated before the fire in the bar-parlour one evening when I entered, casually, and for the first time, that famous house of entertainment. It was an intensely cold night, but with that charming indifference to the comfort of others so often exhibited by persons of a philosophic turn of mind, Dr. Johnson had planted his chair squarely before the fire and was calmly monopolising all its warmth.

"Bring me," I said to the waiter, "a bottle of Bass."

"Yes-sir," murmured the waiter, shuffling away.

"Stay," said I, "bring me also a stove."

"A stove, sir?" repeated the astonished waiter.

"A stove," I reiterated, sternly. "This gentleman is using the only one in the room, and the night is cold."

"Hush, sir," whispered the waiter, impressively; "that is the great Dr. Johnson."

"A fig for Dr. Johnson!" I cried with heat.

"Sir," remarked the Doctor, turning towards me, and speaking with pompous dignity; "Sir, I do not eat figs."

"Then I bite my thumb at you, sir," I said, exasperated by the callous indifference of the lexicographer.

"Sir," returned the Doctor, "you may bite your big toe, an you please. But if you quote Shakespeare at me I shall punch your head."

"Well," said I, speaking with some asperity; "seeing that I may not hope to enjoy the heat of the fire which you have taken so completely under your protection, I shall welcome the warmth engendered by exercise."

"Sir," said Dr. Johnson, as I threw myself into fighting attitude, "you are a fool. Drink with me. I like you."

And thus commenced the many convivial evenings which I subsequently spent in company with the author of "The Vanity of Human Wishes," whose conversation in course of time became to me an intellectual necessity.

On this, the first evening of our acquaintance, our talk naturally drifted to politics.

"What do you think of the present situation?" I asked.

"Sir," replied the Doctor, "it is such as one would expect to find in a community of savages, amongst whom the principle of patriotism had not yet developed."

"I scarcely see the connection," I ventured to say.

"Sir," roared the great philosopher, "am I responsible for your mental cataract? Can you reconcile party squabbles with patriotic sentiment? I recently wrote a copy of verses designed to describe the present condition of affairs. Listen:

Now all are for a party;

Now none are for the State;

Now the great man scorns the poor,

And the poor man hates the great.

Lands are unfairly portioned;

Honours are bought and sold;

The British are corrupted,

And only worship—gold."

"Strangely reminiscent of the "Lays of Ancient Rome." I murmured.

"Sir!" shouted Dr. Johnson, "would you charge me with plagiarism?"

"Not at all, not at all," I hastened to say; "merely a strange coincidence, doubtless."

"Sir," growled the Doctor, "when I first made your acquaintance I said you were a fool. So far I have discovered no reason why I should change that opinion."

I thought it advisable to remain silent for a few moments, whilst the Great Bear recovered his good humour, which he gradually did, to the accompaniment of sundry grunts and snorts. Then, desirous of diverting the conversation into a less dangerous channel, I asked his opinion of the Female Suffrage agitation.

"Sir," replied the Doctor, "woman has no sense of proportion, either in politics or millinery. I should extend them the franchise contingent upon their reducing the size of their hats."

"I can't for the life of me see how you associate hats with politics," I protested.

"Sir," thundered the lexicographer, "you are either an unmitigated ass or an unmarried man."

I pleaded bachelorhood.

"Sir," sobbed the Doctor, "I apologise. Go on being it."

(To be continued.)

Open Letter to John Bull.

May 28, 1910,

DEAR JOHN,

You must ask another question in Parliament,—How many of our legislators use foreign shaving soap regardless of the fact that there is no shaving soap to equal the British-made "Erasmic" Shaving Stick? It is aggravating to see good money paid away to the foreigner for articles inferior to British products and we authorise you to offer each erring legislator a British (and best) "Erasmic" Shaving Stick to prove that we are right and he is wrong.

Business is improving, John, but we may not rest until all your sons shave with British (and best) "Erasmic" Shaving Stick. Money refunded if unsatisfactory.

Trial Sample of "Erasmic" Shaving Stick, two penny stamps.

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ROUND THE SOCIETIES.

OUR WEEKLY BULLETIN.

By TOM ORMEROD.

SEMITE REDEMPTION AND CONVERSION ASSOCIATION.

The Secretary has great pleasure in announcing the complete conversion of six brace of Kamschatka Jews as the result of the season's campaign. A pleasing feature is that this most satisfactory result has been achieved at a total actual cost of only £200 per brace, exclusive of the salaries of the Secretary, the Under-Secretary, the Assistant Secretary, the Assistant Under-Secretary, the Assistant Under-Secretary's wife, and general office expenses. The Association is therefore to be congratulated on having laid out to such advantage the £50,000 subscribed by the British public this year—money which, under other circumstances could only have been wasted on the Socialistic poor of this country itself.

An autograph portrait of the twelve Kamschatka Jews, in their bathing drawers, has been forwarded to all subscribers of amounts over £50, and it is expected (p.v.) that this fact alone will have a beneficial result on the takings of the current year.

The Secretary, the Under-Secretary, the Assistant Secretary, the Assistant Under-Secretary, and the Assistant Under Secretary's wife and children have lately returned from a ten months' cruise round the world, and are due to start next month on a second similar voyage of duty and utility, but journeying this time from West to East, instead of from East to West.

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?

See page ii. of Cover.

London's Latest Restaurant. Opens May 28.

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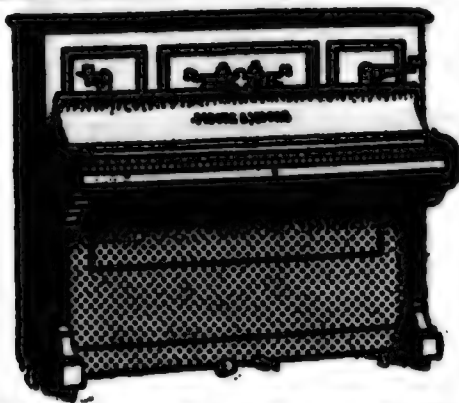
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JOHN BULL'S WOMENFOLK.

BY MRS. BULL.

THE KING'S WALK.

In all the sad pageantry connected with the conveying of our late King's body, first to Westminster, then to Windsor, I think there were two things that had in them just a faint note of brightness. At least that is how they affected me personally. One was the new King's personal resemblance to his dead father, never so clearly shown as when he walked through the streets of London behind the coffin-carriage to the Houses of Parliament. One could see him so clearly in the great bared spaces of the wide roads, wearing his Admiral's uniform, and pacing in slow and measured fashion in the wake of the sad cortege. He looks broader and more burly of build than the photographs always show, and undoubtedly his "fit" brown complexion and nobly held head helped the resemblance. But what was really very interesting to note was the absolute sailor's swing of his walk, which set his sword swaying as he moved. It is just what sailors call "sea-legs," and has the irresistible charm of being a national walk. The boy Duke of Cornwall, immediately following, had just the same swing in his gait. The military steps of the Kings of Denmark and Norway respectively, as they came just behind him, were quite markedly different.

THE CROWDS AND THE QUEEN-MOTHER.

The other thing that struck me was the extraordinary sort of "caught-breath" of enthusiasm, pity, love, what you like, that went right over the vast crowds when the coach of the Queen-Mother—as we now call her—came by. I can only describe it as a *coo*: there is no other name for it. All outward demonstrations must of necessity be kept back, yet this low murmur, whisper, cooing, whatever one likes to call it, was too nameless a thing for police regulations. It was the sort of soft noise one makes over a hurt child. I thought it was the most beautiful expression of sympathy, coming from thousands and thousands of people, of all ranks and grades and beliefs, that one could possibly imagine. And the tale it told of passionate devotion—wasn't Mr. Balfour's word "adoration"?—to this, most sweet and lovely lady was obvious. For it wasn't only because she was their Queen—it was also because she was their darling, and in sorrow. The police tell us that hundreds of poor women tramped from their dreary homes early in the grey morning to take up their stand on the pavement, simply "to see the Queen-Mother, and show her their sympathy."

PRETTY HALF-MOURNING HATS.

For people unable to indulge to the full in the glooms of Court mourning, or even to keep up the "all black" very long, some very simple and pretty half-mourning hats are being shown in the West-End shops. Those particularly suitable for young girls are of pure white, fine straw trimmed with wreaths of small black roses and leaves. Another very cool-looking hat I saw was of the same chalk-white straw, the crown veiled in black chiffon, softly draped, and a wreath of white jasmine round it. The starry jasmine flowers looked very delicate against the black chiffon cloud. Other hats quite certain to be popular if the warm weather becomes a settled fact are the "mob" and Tudor designs in fine black lace and mounted over shapes covered with white chiffon. The effect of white through thin black on millinery is rather uncommon, and these hats look particularly well if the band round them is of black velvet, not ribbon. The stiff, wide-brimmed French sailors in patterned canvas, mauve flowers on a white ground, and bound with mauve ribbon, are sure to have a great vogue for boating and the seaside.

THE NEW QUEEN'S IDEAS.

It certainly seems true that according to the town whispers, Queen Mary will set a fashion of restraint in dress which some of us, at least, will welcome. She has nothing but ridicule for the more gross exaggerations of hats and "trip-up" skirts which some women indulge in till they are almost unrecognisable. Many people will remember how at one of the big race-meetings last year she was seen in the Royal Stand studying these absurdities through field glasses, and making merry with a group of ladies over the maniac modes. She is so dainty and, in the right sense, so fond of pretty things herself that no one need fear that the millenium of the frump is at hand—far from it. Only it will be the fashion to look a lady, if you are one, instead of attempting to look like something much less desirable.

USELESS CHIFFONS.

Whether one likes dyed dresses or not—and public opinion is usually against them—this year those of us who haven't very large incomes will be almost obliged to suffer a little from these afflictions. Brides, debutantes, and people travelling abroad who have been obliged to collect a large stock of new and presumably coloured dresses, are in a fearful quandary, since they cannot even find a sale for their gay but idle chiffons. By the time the mourning is over these will obviously be out of date, and the dealers are not investing in them, except to a very limited extent. The big firms of dyers are, on the other hand, offering special facilities for dyeing dresses in a few days: one firm undertakes to do this in twenty-four hours. It is therefore, perhaps, wiser to make a reckless plunge with all useless coloured garments, which will only become more useless if they are stored up, and risk the consequences.

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85, Fleet St, London, E.C.

THE LARGEST MAKERS OF HEARING DEVICES
IN THE WORLD.

BRANCHES:

PARIS—15, Rue de Trevis.

MANCHESTER—Parr's Bank Building, York Street.

BIRMINGHAM—Central House, 75, New Street.

GLASGOW—Gordon Chambers, 90, Mitchell Street.

HULL—39, Savile Street.

LEEDS—12, Otley Road, Headingley.

BRISTOL AGENT—Dunscombe's, Limited,
5, St. Augustine's Parade.

FOR MEN OF TASTE

The colours in Pyramid Handkerchiefs—the latest thing in men's wear—have already withstood the merciless bleaching test. No washing can touch them—guaranteed. Just see them at any high-class outfitters—2d. each, or 4/3 the half-dozen—you'll buy them.

(Also in plain white).



PYRAMID HANDKERCHIEFS

REGISTERED.

If your outfitter hasn't Pyramid Handkerchiefs, send his address to "Pyramid," 132, Cheap-side, London, proprietors Tootal Broadhurst Lee Co., Ltd., and they will see that you are supplied at once. Warning: every genuine "Pyramid" bears "Pyramid" label.

OUR GUARANTEE
Every coloured Pyramid Handkerchief is guaranteed indelible colours, superior quality and perfect make. If found otherwise, you can obtain free replacement, or your money back in full.

Lissac Handkerchiefs
For Women of Quality.

Hunyadi János

Nature's own inimitable remedy for Constipation, Biliousness and Disordered Digestion. Just as Nature creates it and intends it should be taken—it cures

CONSTIPATION

in a natural, easy, certain way. Inexpensive and effective. Try a bottle—and drink half a glass on arising.

The Famous NATURAL Aperient Water

FORTUNES FROM CASINOS

It is a rare occurrence for investors to be able to join in a Continental Casino Company on the "Ground Floor."

AN OPPORTUNITY

is now offered, which, after a few years development, should mean a big increase in income for 30 or 40 years to the lucky investors who join at once.

The £1 Ordinary Shares are being sold at par, and the 1/- Founders at 5/- each. If you would like Illustrated Particulars write at once to

THE DIRECTOR,
THE ST. CECILE MUNICIPAL CASINO CO., Ltd.
Carlton House, Regent St., London, S.W.

IT COMES AS A GREAT SURPRISE

It comes as a great surprise to most people when they are told on good authority that it is no longer necessary to pay an extravagant price for a well-made, stylish, gentlemanly suit. But our popular **LUDGATE Style** is positive proof. It is not only a thoroughly Up-to-date Gentlemanly Suit in appearance, but it is really well made, cleverly cut, carefully tailored, and trimmed and finished in perfect taste. Our extraordinary economical price enables you to study your appearance with surprisingly moderate outlay, and our convenient easy payment terms enable you to distribute the expense over several months, so that you can have the suit at once without any delay or inconvenience.

SEND A POST CARD

for **PATTERNS** of a full range of attractive materials cut from the cloth lengths now being made up, and including Tweeds, Cheviots, Worsted Serges, plain Black & Blue Winstons, and a grand selection of Hard-wearing Yorkshire Suitings. Shadow Stripes both broad and narrow, in Olive Brown Shades and other attractive colourings. Our simplified Self-measure Form will be included with the patterns and instructions how to order.

WE DELIVER

this Handsome, well-tailored Suit to all approved orders

FOR ONLY

2/6

WITH ORDER

and if you are satisfied with the garments when tried on, send 2/6 on delivery and the balance is payable by six monthly instalments of 5/- but if you are in any way disappointed we instantly return the whole of the money paid.

EVERY GENTLEMAN who appreciates style, comfort, and economy, should send a post card at once for our new selection of **Suiting Patterns** at 2/6, 4/6, and 6/6, delivered for small deposit and easy monthly payments if you are thoroughly satisfied.

Send if Dark or Light Patterns are preferred.

Style,
Fit,
and
Finish
assured.

J. & GRAVES Ltd.
SHEFFIELD.

2/-
in the
£
Cash
Discount

Have you found out the 1,000 uses for

SECCOTINE

THE WORLD'S ADHESIVE?

The little breakages that are always happening are no longer beyond cure. A tube costs 6d., but its preservative power could not be reckoned in pounds.

Set anywhere in 10 min. 12-steps 100, 3d. at 6d. each.

Write to-day for **TRIAL FREE SAMPLE** to **MCAN, STEVENSON & OBE, Ltd.**, Belfast and 31 & 32, Shoe Lane, LONDON, E.C.

REFUSE IMITATIONS.

BULL'S EYES.

NOTES OF INTERROGATION:—

Isn't a Business Government a "practical" idea?
 Is it really difficult to "get ahead of *The Times*"?
 Why not call him "ex-precedent Roosevelt"?
 Isn't Austria trying for a "too powerful standard"?
 How did they "speed the parting Guest" in East Dorset?
 Is Rudyard Kipling after that Poet Laureate job?
 Is County cricket a paying game?
 Will the "Railway Pool" swamp the other lines?
 Will the new play, "The Cheerful Knave," prove a trump card?
 Are the "Storm services" on the tube railways to "raise the wind"?
 Will the P.S.A. find Socialism an "absorbing" subject?
 Will Kitchener warm things up a bit?

Mr. Lloyd George "given away," we read. But some think he was sold.

A correspondent in a contemporary: "At 3 a.m. I saw a bolt, or meteor, which hung in the heavens like a huge snake." What did he have for supper?

Life ruined by a sentence, we read. "I will"?

Heading: Liner on the rocks. Very common in Fleet Street.

The *Mail* says: "The comet was picked up at Greenwich shortly after three." Perhaps it was the *Star*.

We hear of a disturbed cotton market. But it is always reeling.

Picture painted in bed, we read. A dream?

Miss Hentschel has married her Pett Ridge.

"How conservative children are in their reading," says the *Book Monthly*. Not very complimentary to the party.

£3,700 for a dish, we read. A rich dish indeed.

A cricketer at the Oval had two of his teeth knocked out. Well stumped.

Heading: Betrayed by a key. Nothing new.

A blue rose has been produced. This will be read with interest.

We read that hysterics are of daily occurrence at the telephone exchanges. They must hear funny things.

Aeroplane Missionaries, runs a heading. But sky pilots are not new.

"Printer's Pie" is again full of plums.

Heading: Paper sold as sugar. But some papers cannot sell for toffees.

"Indifference is a dreadful complaint," says Mr. W. Hall. Is that why some folk are so long getting over it?

"Downward"—the title of a recent book—sounds rather depressing.

"You should have been an auctioneer," said a sarcastic employer to a clumsy assistant, and it was some time before the young man realised that an auctioneer is always knocking things down.

The L.C.C. is offering scholarships to domestic servants, but the average Mary Jane does not care for lectures.

"Anyone can do without necessities," says H. W. C. Newte. This sounds smart till one remembers that nothing is a "necessity" that can be done without.

"Every night at 8.30, 'The Dawn of a To-morrow,'" we read. Truly these are bustling times.

"Ginger for Shareholders" reads a headline. Didn't it make them sit up?

"Those sincere women are generally very sly," says Mrs. Cornwallis West. Yes, too good to be true.

"Is Spiritualism a Fraud?" asks a contemporary. If you see it in JOHN BULL, it is so.

The passenger who shot a French railway employee because "the man's face was displeasing," evidently didn't like the look of him.

An Oxford Street tradesman was fined for causing an obstruction by a mechanical figure in his window. It is untrue that the figure was one of his assistants.

RUBBERETTES.—

Golf-balls are being heavily insured.

Street cleaners using rubber squeegees are now shadowed by detectives.

A fully-paid 2s. rubber share is the most popular first prize at whist-drives.

Since the rubber boom started several bouncing babies have been born.

A company is projected for the recovery of tyre rubber from road dust. Shrewd persons are selling the rubber heels from their old boots and shoes and buying new footwear with the proceeds.

The elastic-skinned freaks in various travelling shows have demanded increased salaries.

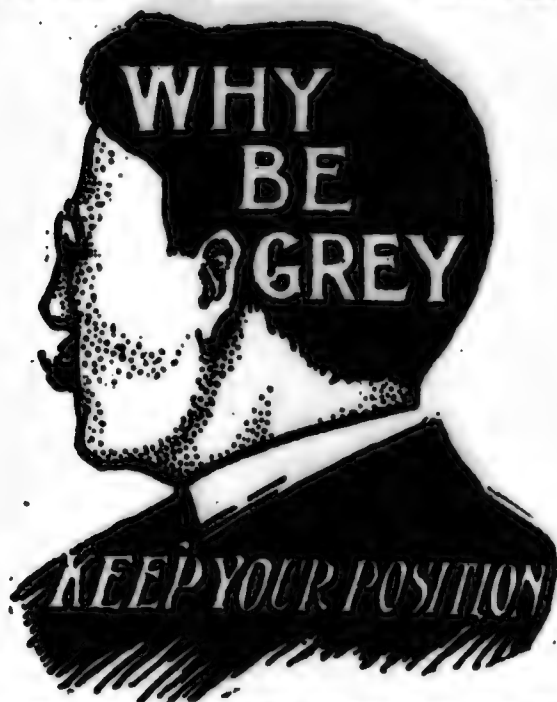
Several nursemaids have been held up in lonely places recently and the tube of the baby's feeding bottle wrested from them.

Seed merchants are being overwhelmed with enquiries from amateur gardeners as to the price of rubber-vine seed.

It is expected that rubber jewellery will soon come into fashion.

5,000 BOTTLES GRATIS.

Darken Your Hair Naturally.



When a person has grey hairs before becoming fifty years old, everybody thinks this is a sign of mental decay, which is a great mistake, and very unjust to those who are afflicted. The reason is due to a slight disorder of the pigmentary glands, of the scalp, sometimes caused by a shock or nervousness, and more often due to neglect of the hair.

But every person whose hair is turning, or who is already grey, may now rejoice, for there has been discovered a perfect remedy. It is not one of those cheap and nasty dyes or stains, but it is a preparation which feeds and invigorates the pigmentary glands, causing renewed life and a return of the natural colour. It is perfectly harmless. Its use cannot be detected, and the hair gradually darkens until it reaches the shade of the days of youth. It is equally good for men and women, and if any reader of this paper would like to try a bottle, I will hand same to him or her free, with my compliments, at my office, or will send in plain, sealed wrapper, if two penny stamps are enclosed for posting.—Prof. Paul Lind, (Dept. 114J,) 54, Duke Street, Mayfair, London (opposite Selfridge's).



Don't envy that chap with the big paid post

— Get one like it yourself.

He holds his simply because he can direct, instruct, advise and *decide* when things are right or wrong.

Long service never got it for him. He is too young for that. *Training* is the secret.

He has mastered both the practice and theory of his business by means of the I.C.S. home training. And thousands of others like him.

So must you—if you want to get big wages, congenial work and a secure future.

I.C.S. training secures you all this without interruption of your present work or home life or financial obligations.

Prove this by referring to other I.C.S. students in your district already successful. We will send their names on receipt of this coupon.

SALARY-RAISING COUPON

International Correspondence Schools, Ltd.
 Dept. 246K, International Buildings, Kingway, London, W.C.
 Please explain, without further obligation on my part, how I can qualify for a larger salary in the position before which I have marked X (or in the one stated here).....

Electrical Engineering	Architecture
Mechanical Engineering	Heating
Mining Engineering	Analytical Chemistry
Civil Engineering	Book-Keeping & Business
Steam Engineering	Textiles
Gas Engineering	Modern Languages
Machine Shop Practice	Civil Service

Name.....

Address.....

(The Sign of the N. S. E. is the Size of the £. S. D.)

PAID AWAY TO CLIENTS.

£373,270

BY THE

NATIONAL SHARE EXCHANGE.

THE DEMANDS OF THE BUDGET.

Whether or not you agree with the Budget—whether you think you get back indirectly what you pay for directly out of your income—professional earnings or “unearned increment”—is no concern of ours. On the other hand, there is no question about the fact that we can help to pay them, because our Clients make profits.



OUR CLIENTS MAKE PROFITS.

The total amount above shows to what extent Clients have received cheques from us. The more the taxes grow the more necessary it is that individual earnings should increase. You may increase your earnings through us. But you must become a Client first.

FROM LAND'S END TO JOHN O' GROATS

(all over the Kingdom) we have clients. But it doesn't matter how many Clients we have; how much we do for them, and how prosperous they are; it doesn't help you if you are not a Client. Yet there is no difficulty in becoming a Client; there is no entrance fee; no preliminary trouble.

The Way is Easy. Fill in Coupon.

NOTWITHSTANDING THE BUDGET,

Our terms remain the same.

Unlimited Profits.

A Small Outlay.

Liability can be Limited to £6.

Cheque for Profits by Return Post.

No Stamps or Fees.

No Commissions.

Substantial Results.

The accounts below show a few payments to Clients. In any case you will see that these amounts are substantial.

F.S.'s Account.

CHEQUES.	£	s	d
16703	12	0	0
17412	14	0	0
17736	42	0	0
18082	30	0	0
18131	32	0	0
18215	32	0	0
18330	8	7	7
18533	31	15	0
19491	18	0	0

Total £220 2 7

W. A. McM.'s Account.

CHEQUES.	£	s	d
16942	199	1	6
19460	136	1	7
19767	275	0	0

Total £610 18 1

G.W.D.'s Account.

19655	24	0	0
20382	30	0	0
20859	29	16	0
20976	20	10	0

Total £104 6 0

How many people could have paid their income-tax out of the £373,270 we have paid clients! Look at the particulars of cheques paid to three of our clients, and consider whether you would not be justified and practical in filling in this coupon. That is all we ask of you.

APPLICATION FOR PARTICULARS.

TO THE SECRETARY, NATIONAL SHARE EXCHANGE,

Great Winchester Street, London, E.C.

Please forward me (as my name is not already on your book) full particulars of your methods and system of money-making, as well as a list of cheques, totalling £373,270, which you have paid clients acting on your advice and recommendations, together with a Search Form, so that I can verify any single cheque, or batch of cheques, that I may select.

NAME
(State Rev., Mr., Mrs., Miss, or Title)

ADDRESS IN FULL

(Please write distinctly.)

DATE

This and all our advertisements are copyright.

J.B.
362

JOHN BULL'S LETTER BAG.

[THE EDITOR replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Will readers, when sending cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

CORRESPONDENTS, when referring to previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to. Owing to the great increase in the number of enquiries received consequent upon the abnormal growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag," and only those of general interest will be noticed. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc.

AUTHORS and **ARTISTS** submitting MSS. and drawings for consideration must write names and addresses upon the back of their work. The Editor can accept no responsibility for the safe custody of MSS., etc., so forwarded, but will endeavour to return unaccepted work when stamped, addressed envelopes are sent for the purpose. All matter submitted must be original unless otherwise stated.

The Editor can express no opinion upon the value of postage stamps, old china, pictures, coins, books, etc.

CORRESPONDENTS are requested NOT to send ORIGINAL CERTIFICATES, TESTIMONIALS, ETC., as, though every effort is made for their safe custody, they are liable to be mislaid. Copies only of such documents should be sent in the first instance; if inspection of the originals is required, a request will be forwarded to that effect.

E. G.—Private Members of Parliament are not paid for either sitting on Committees in the House, or anything else—worse luck!

W. H. K.—Delighted to hear from you. We assure you, however, we have a "down" on nobody, and never sneer at our fellow man—however much we dislike him. You see, we want him to buy our paper.

F. K. (St. Pancras).—Let us hope that the teacher's abuse secured us a few new readers.

R. H. R. (Dover).—You surely do not suggest that the "General" was out for an advertisement in the "assurances" he gave the new King?

F. R. P. (Leyton).—It is quite true that we have frequently subscribed to some of the Social departments of the Salvation Army—and hope to continue to do so. You see, we are not bigoted.

E. G. (Portsmouth) wishes to remind Sabbatharians that in refraining from working upon the first day of the week they are not obeying the commands of the Hebrew Jehovah, but simply an edict of Constantine, who "having for political purposes gratified the Christian section of his subjects by adopting Christianity, attempted to gratify the other section by making the Pagan Sun-Day the day of worship, rest and recreation."

D. R. S. sends us the following beautiful poem, which is worthy of Alfred Austin at his best—

JOHN BULL is a paper I admire,
Others may use it to light th' fire;
How angry indeed th' latter must be,
Not liking their misdeeds in print to see.

But Bottomley cares ne'er for devil or man,
Using his pen as few men can;
Laying the blame where blame is due,
Lavish with praise for the deserving few.

F. S. B. (Shanklin), apropos our recent article on the "Bristol Corporation Officials as Discount Touters," asks whether it is not a fact that teachers in L.C.C. Schools have for a long time enjoyed special discounts from various firms, together with cheap rates on the railway companies. We are unable to answer the question.

A **SUBSCRIBER** to the Clarion Bread Fund wishes it to be known that the Hon. Treasurer's accounts were in no way in question, and the statement that the Investigation Committee could not get all the documents from the Treasurer is both irrelevant and incorrect.

C. G.—We have frequently explained that our Editor stood, and sits, as a Democrat, reserving, however, the right to think for himself—a privilege which very few constituents accord to their members.

R. R. (Finsbury Park) suggests that we should not disclose the names of people to whom we award "Biscuits," but offer prizes to our readers for discovering them. We are afraid this would not work.

C. F. (Torquay) congratulates us upon our recent victories in the Law Courts. He surmises that it will in future be impossible for us ever to lose a case before a British jury, as, of course, every respectable man is now a member of the John Bull League. We had not thought of that!

J. J. (Plaistow).—In the case of a Tied-House we presume the Brewer would pay the license duty, but we are not experts in these matters.

DR. S. ASHLEY SMITH, one of the Bilston Magistrates, apropos our recent paragraph respecting the sentence of 3 months imprisonment passed upon a man for sleeping-out, tells us that if we knew the man's record we should not have censured the Bench. We were, however, careful to state that we knew nothing of the prisoner's past, but we thought, and still think, that 3 months for sleeping-out is a bit stiff.

A. H. (London) tells us that someone has been pulling our leg about the tea-money of the Liverpool and London and Globe clerks. All that has happened is, that the management have recently ordained that tea, instead of tea-money, shall be supplied. We are delighted to hear it!

CAMO (Salisbury) wants to know all about the Sanitary Training College of 335, High Holborn. This is one of the few questions in this world which we are not capable of answering off the reel. All we can say is, that opinions appear to be equally divided as to its merits.

C. V. H. (Farnworth) agrees with the sentiments expressed in the recent article on "Slumber City," but would like to see it translated into plain English. He does not like "dirty American slang." At any rate, it has had the effect of waking him up.

L. S. A. (Stoke Newington).—A very sad case, but you remember Falstaff's question, "Because thou art virtuous, shall there be no more cake, ale, and wines?"

W. L. W. (London) and one or two other readers, take up the cudgels on behalf of Mr. Barker, the bone-setter. We intend to break Jim Crow's neck when we next run him to earth, and will then see what Mr. Barker can do for him.

L. L. B. (Catford) wants to know what are the prospects of Californian fruit-growing, when is the best time to arrive, the necessary capital, and a few other details; and winds up by requesting us to quote price of Murchison Associated. We put his letter by with one or two others to help us to while away the Whitsun holidays, but somehow or other it got overlooked.

(Continued on page 794.)



JAPAN BRITISH EXHIBITION
SHEPHERDIS BUSH LONDON
1910

NOW OPEN. Admission—ONE SHILLING.

Go to Norway this Summer.

You will be one among many thousands who have chosen this delightful land for their holidays. The **WILSON LINE** despatch the s.s. "Oslo" and "Auro" every Thursday throughout the season to Stavanger, Bergen and Trondhjem—new steamers, with vastly improved accommodation and excellent cuisine.

Inclusive Tours from £7 15s. upwards.

Boat train leaves King's Cross 2 p.m. and runs alongside steamers at Hull.

For full particulars and illustrated booklets apply **THOS. WILSON, SONS & CO. Ltd., HULL**; or to the **UNITED SHIPPING CO. Ltd., 105 Fenchurch Street E.C.**; **THOS. COOK & SON, Ludgate Circus, E.C.**; and **GELLATLY'S, 31, Pall Mall, S.W.**

FINANCIAL SUCCESS.

"THE LAW OF FINANCIAL SUCCESS" tells you in plain English how to make money and secure financial independence. It contains positive rules and instructions for every man and woman desirous of bettering their financial condition. The low price is but a fraction of its real value. Over 100,000 copies have already been sold. The book will be mailed post-paid promptly upon receipt of 6d.

SEND FOR IT TO-DAY.

The Fictoriary Co., 22, Century House, Queen Victoria St., London E.C.

Your clothes in order

No matter how careful you may be, time and use make the smartest clothes shabby. Send off the shabby suit to be scientifically dry-cleaned in the

ACHILLE SERRE WAY

and within a week it will come back spotless, creaseless, and smart as in. All for a charge of 3/9.

Write for free booklet, "Clothes and the Man," and address of nearest Branch or Agency.

Achille Serre, Ltd.,

White Post Lane, Hackney Wick, E.

TELEPHONE: 1265 East.

Carriage paid one way on orders sent direct.

PAT.
Sept. 25
1895.

Agents Wanted.



INSIDE OR OUTSIDE HEATER.

A GRAND INVENTION.

for taking Turkish-Russian Baths at home for 1d. each.
Opens the millions of pores and draws out the poisons
which cause disease. Thousands enjoy

THE CENTURY THERMAL BATH

weekly. It Beautifies Complexion, Prevents Disease,
Cures Colds, Fevers, Rheumatism, Influenza, and all
Blood, Skin, Kidney, and Nerve Troubles. Guaranteed.
30 days' trial allowed.

The "Century" is the original portable Hygienic
Cabinet with the patented four-flap top, and has no com-
parison with those built of wood. It has the most
perfect heater for use inside or outside.

Prices complete from 25s. to £6 15s.

7s. 6d. BOOK FREE TO BUYERS.

Free on Request. Valuable Book—"Health, Strength,
and Hygiene." Write to-day for Catalogue No. 514.

CENTURY THERMAL BATH COMPANY, LTD.

(Dept. 524), 205, Regent Street, London, W.

Matchless Mixtures.

Just try any one of the following perfect blends if
you wish to experience real pleasure from your pipe.

"TWO HOURS" Mixture 5d. per oz.
Cool, Fragrant, and absolutely Pure.

"ALDERWOOD" Mixture 5d. per oz.
In Three Strengths. Our Latest Success.

"LUNTIN" Mixture 6d. per oz.
In Three Strengths.

The Blend that made us famous.

"MOUND" Mixture 1/4 per 2 ozs.
Blended from the finest leaf procurable.

All the Best Tobacconists supply the above, but
should you have any difficulty, send stamps to
the amount for Samples to the Manufacturers,

Thomson & Porteous, Edinburgh.

'KOH-I-NOOR' PENCILS

with Peary at
the North Pole.

Nov. 30th, 1909.

To Messrs. L. & C. HARDTMUTH

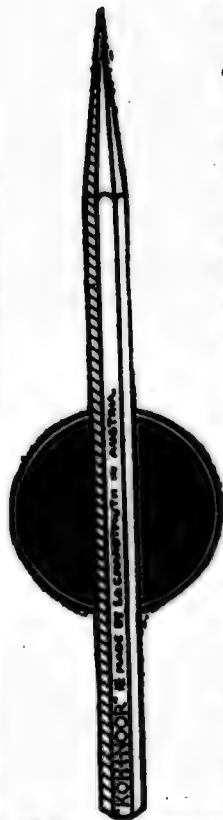
GENTLEMEN,—Hardtmuth's "Koh-I-Noor" Pencils were carried by me on the
Northward Sledge journey, and some
of them were carried to the Pole. As
a matter of fact, I have one or two
left that were taken to the North Pole.
(My records were written with "Koh-I-
Noor" Pencils.)

Very truly yours,

(Signed) R. PEARY

"Koh-I-Noor" Pencils are invariably
selected by those who want the best
Pencils made. If you have not tried
"Koh-I-Noor" Quality, why not do so?

"Koh-I-Noor" Pencils, 4d. each, or 3/1
per dozen. Of Stationers, etc. Illustrated
particulars free for the asking from L. & C.
HARDTMUTH, 12, Golden Lane, London, E.C.
(Paris, Vienna, Milan, Dresden, Brussels, New
York.)



WHITELEY'S "KILDARE CLUB" CYCLES

£4 : 4 : 0

(12 payments of 7/-)

Are Still the World's Best Value in High Grade Cycles

They include the best fittings: Dunlop Rubber Co.'s Scott Tyres, Roller
Lever Rim Brakes, Hyde Free Wheel, Appleby's Chain.

EVERY CYCLE CARRIES A SIGNED GUARANTEE

Humber, Raleigh, Swift, James, B.S.A., New Hudson, Singer, Elswick,
etc., etc., by Easy Payments, with no extra charge for Twelve
Months' Credit. Call or write for Lists immediately—Post Free.

Record Cycles at
£3 13 6
are the cheapest Reliable Cycles

Royal Cycles at
£5 5 0
(12 payments of 8/9)
Dunlop Tyres, Perry Chain and
Free Wheel

Money Back if not Satisfied

Carriage Paid to any Station

**WHITELEYS QUEEN'S ROAD
LONDON, W.**

Please mention "John Bull"



USE

"NUGGET"

POLISHES

BLACK and BROWN

"DOUBLE the LIFE of your BOOTS"

A. TURNER, of the Haymarket, writes, giving us particulars of his transactions with the reader who recently complained, and which certainly put a different aspect on the matter. We are afraid some of these disappointed punters are not always George Washingtons.

J. T. (Guildford) and others. Glad our letter to the Queen-Mother pleased you. We do not, however, propose to reprint it.

JOHN BULL COAL CLUB.—J. L. (Islington) and many others.—You will observe that the interests of the retail newsagents have been fully protected.

A. S. (Woolwich).—Your friend is altogether wrong. Whenever King Edward had died, his eldest living son would have come to the throne, to be followed by his eldest son.

THE HON. SYDNEY HOLLAND, Chairman of the London Hospital, writes us an interesting and informative letter apropos the reference in our article on Nursing Homes to the State Registration of Nurses. He says that the measure is opposed by much more than "a tiny" group, as no less than 66 matrons in London, 178 matrons of Provincial hospitals, 1,300 nurses and 91 chairmen and others intimately connected with hospitals, have all signed protests against it. The Central Hospitals Council have twice also decided against registration. Such legislation would not stop the hideous evils so ably pointed out by "A Nurse," but would merely prevent a woman calling herself a "registered" nurse when she is not one. To pass a law making it penal to nurse unless a woman is registered, would be to put out of work all the village nurses and thousands of district nurses who are doing admirable work all over the United Kingdom.

E. G. C. (Clapham) reminds us of the great hardships suffered by musicians in consequence of the interruption of amusements, etc., caused by the King's death. He does not in any way complain, but only wishes the public to give a kindly thought to a long-suffering and struggling class of the community.

J. A. T. (London) tells us that he, and neither Sir Edmund Cox nor ourselves, was the first to suggest that we should call upon Germany to stop her naval rivalry, or, in the alternative, blow her ships out of the slips. In confirmation of this, he sends us copy of a letter he wrote last year to the *Eastbourne Chronicle*. The wise men always came from the East—bourne. G. H. S. (Westcliffe-on-Sea), however, reminds us that Admiral Fitzgerald in a speech—12 or 15 years ago—committed the pleasing indiscretion of advocating a similar policy. So there is nothing new under the sun!

"WHITE SLAVE" (Fulham) complains of tyranny and espionage at a biscuit factory. He says the employees are not properly paid for overtime. He does not, of course, refer to our biscuit works.

W. H. R. (London, S.E.) complains that extra workers in the Post Office are kept waiting several days for their money. But the Budget was hung up.

J. J. (Saltley) criticises an article on "Music Halls," by Mr. William Archer in the *Birmingham Daily Mail*, and says: "I do not know who he is or where he lives (if I did, I would send him a box of marbles). You will notice that he goes to a music-hall once every two years (naughty boy!), and then he proceeds to say that advance has not been made in the tone of the 'beastly exhibition.'" We are told that Archer is a theatrical critic, so, perhaps, he has a prejudice against music-halls.

C. R. F. (Plymouth).—We quite agree that if all those terrible things really happened in nunneries they ought to be stopped, but they still remain to be proved.

R. A. G. (Catford).—We do not see how Protection would prevent sweating. If prices are artificially raised the sweater will take all the extra profits.

"CHAFFINCH" (London, N.) asks whether the Holborn Empire is justified in raising the prices of seats without fair public notice. We will think it over.

P. M. (Sussex) offers to pay the expenses of Jim Crow if he will go down to a Welsh-Prayer-Political Temperance Meeting. But he is a very expensive missionary.

F. L. (Walsall) tells us of a firm which brings political pressure upon subordinates, and announced that if the Budget passed there would be no more work for them. We agree that this is "coercion with a vengeance."

W. P. (Pollokshields).—We will scold the man who sang about the Empire and wrote "English" instead of "British." He was evidently one of the German scaremongers.

M. A. B. C. (Lisbon).—Thanks for the Portuguese paper with the English advertisement. We wish you a happy new "Year."

W. G. (Waltham Green) writes to expose the Publicity Agency of Georges Road, Holloway.

H. B. F. (Maida Vale) says that Walter Searle, of Flushing, is conducting business at 31, King William Street, E.C.

"A VORER" (Salisbury) enquires about the possibilities of Colonial Preference being carried out. We confess we have not yet seen a practical scheme.

E. C. (London, N.), having observed that our "Letter Bag" is developing into a Poets' Corner, sends us the following patriotic lines:—

"Why does a mouse spin, and how
If the higher it goes the fewer;
Can the banks of the evenings bow-wow
Be like fish in the Iricans glue?"

He offers a thousand pounds for the correct reply. We guess "rats."

Ir James Moody, of Bristol, will forward his full address, the Editor will be pleased to send him a copy of the cartoon, "Called Away," suitable for framing.

THE MANAGING EDITOR of *Answers*, apropos a paragraph in a recent issue of JOHN BULL, under the heading of "Canadian Emigrants, Beware! A Word with *Answers*," writes us that the article in his paper to which we referred was the outcome of several interviews with responsible officials at the offices of the Grand Trunk Railway and the Canadian Emigration Bureau, and that Mr. Obed Smith, of the Bureau, expressly stated that in the case of approved emigrants his Department was empowered to waive the £5 regulation. He further states that the article was submitted in MS. to Mr. Leopold, of the Grand Trunk Railway, and Mr. Smith, and approved by them. It appears, however, that between the date of the giving of the information and the appearance of the article in *Answers* the Canadian Government withdrew the discretionary power as to the £5, though the Emigration Bureau did not inform the Editor of *Answers* until after the publication of the article. We must, therefore, entirely acquit *Answers* of any carelessness in regard to the matter—which appears to be another instance of Mr. Obed Smith's lightheartedness.

S. M. (Birmingham) wishes it to be clearly understood that the Midland Aero Club Flying Meeting Syndicate (referred to in a recent issue) is in no way connected with the Birmingham Aero Club, which have just held an exhibition at Edgbaston, and which does not appear to be undertaking any undue financial responsibilities.

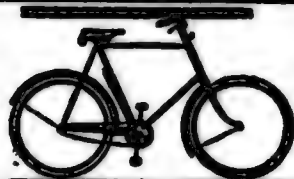
(We regret we are obliged to hold over a large number of replies.)

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RACING NOTES.

By W. LOTINGA.

("Larry Lynx" of THE PEOPLE, and "Maggie" of THE GLOBE.)

A Crack Lightweight.

Little Arthur Duller, the latest lightweight apprentice, is the second son of George Duller, the Epsom trainer, whose senior boy has been riding both on the flat and jumping for the past two seasons. He is sixteen years of age, but can ride at 5st. 5lbs. He was apprenticed in the first instance to Frank Hartigan, but recently had his indentures transferred to his father. Needless to say, the boy is to be given plenty of chances, for, nowadays, fathers who are trainers recognise what it means to have a fashionable lightweight jockey of their own—for instance, Wootton with his two boys, Escott with his three, East with two, and Butchers, Young, Avila, Jarvis, and nearly every trainer who has sons.

Prophetic.

Both meetings are half over before these notes can appear, and the earlier running must have much influenced what can happen on Thursday and Friday. Up north, I advocate the following of

DALNACRAG,

in the Doncaster Spring Handicap, while, with Maher up, I do not believe anything can beat

KING CHARMING

in the Chesterfield Plate.

Salisbury provides only one advisable wager, MORENA, if he is run for the Salisbury Cup, while Windsor, on Saturday, gives the week's "good thing" in the

MURGIS COLT

for the Royal Three-year-old Handicap, and here, too, MONTREAL would, if started, be a "good thing" for the Slough Plate.

Epsom will have begun prior to next week's publication, and therefore it behoves me to hint that we must follow SYCE in the Egmont Plate; while the Derby I have always believed a real "good thing" for

NEIL GOW,

who will probably, owing to the local popularity of his owner, start favourite.

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NOTTINGHAM.

July 30th 1909.

DEAR SIR,—Your favour of the 29th instant to hand. Things have come up very well these last days, and the capital is increasing splendidly. Wishing you continued success (or SUCCOUR'S) and hoping you will have an enjoyable time at Brighton.

MANCHESTER.

July 30th, 1909.

DEAR SIR,—Just drawn yesterday's results—CAROUSEL. Many thanks Yours sincerely, T. W.

P.S.—SUCCOUR 7 to 1. Words fail me. T. W.

ROCK FERRY, BIRKENHEAD.

September 28th, 1909.

DEAR SIR,—Enclosed herewith please find P.O. for five wires. I am more than pleased with the information you send me, and only wish that I had been in communication with you from the first start of the season. Hoping to have some more good things.

Yours truly, F. M.

GRIMSBY.

September 29th, 1909.

DEAR SIR,—Please accept the small bass of fish I sent you to-day as a small recognition of your ability to find winners. Trusting you will have the same luck to end of season.

I am, yours truly, T. B.

I see no earthly reason why you should not follow my DAILY SYSTEM WIRES. You must have a good Turf Adviser if you want to make racing pay, so why not follow the man who has studied racing and systems all his life, the man who desires to see you win; for in your success lies his own success.

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